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AWP Paper on U.S. Bases in Spain, Greece

AU271616 Tirana ZERI I POPULLIT in Albanian 24 Jan 88 p 4

[Shaban Murati article: "'The Circulation of Arms.'—An American Restriction Which Narrows the Sovereignty of Allies"]

[Excerpts] The superpowers' promises and practices on the question of arms reminds one of the principle of the U-Tube. Even if they promise to reduce some types of weapons, or actually reduce them, they compensate for them with other types; even if they depart or are forced to depart from one country, they soon establish themselves in another. We have a fresh example of this in the case of the 72 F-16 fighters which have been deployed in the large Torrejon base in Spain and which must leave, by decision of the Spanish Government, within 3 years. The Spanish decision concerning the withdrawal of the American fighter aircraft and the reduction of the U.S. military personnel in that country by 50 percent, a correct decision, was adopted last week and approved by realistic and progressive European public opinion. [passage omitted] The U.S. Administration's position becomes even more difficult when one considers that talks are currently in progress with Greece and the Philippines, again on the question of military bases. The Greek-American agreement on bases lapses at the end of this year and the talks have been termed difficult. If no agreement is reached, the bases must be withdrawn within 17 months. Meanwhile, it has been announced that the Greek Government has renewed its demand of last November to the U.S. Embassy that all work in the American bases must be halted while the negotiations are going on. Similar problems have also arisen with regard to the question of bases in Portugal and some other countries.

Confronted with such a situation, the United States is applying the principle of the "circulation of armaments." In order to mitigate the effect of the Spanish decision Washington hastened to announce that the aircraft concerned will be deployed in other allied countries. In a way that has by now become the practice in the case of relations between the allies, the West European countries learned about the redeployment of the F-16 fighters from the press. [passage omitted]

The United States is confronting its allies with a fait accompli. The "circulation of armaments," the deployment and redeployment of bases, missiles, aircraft, and ships is considered to be an exclusive American right. The "NATO decision" label that is being used to somewhat justify the American arrogance is too pallid to conceal the truth of the White House's appropriation of the right to decide on the important defense questions of European countries. [passage omitted]

Why is America hastening to redeploy its aircraft? The great pressure exerted by the broad masses and progressive public opinion on the governments of various European countries concerning the uselessness and danger of American military bases is well-known. There is widespread belief that American military bases are intended to defend American interests in the West European countries rather than these countries themselves from some external danger, and this belief extends even to important political circles and personalities in Europe. These interests are the main reason the United States is keeping its bases and troops in Europe which is why it is transferring these bases to another European country, instead of bringing them back home. The redeployment of the F-16 fighters also raises another problem, which is related to the strategic nuclear balance of the superpowers. The aircraft are capable of carrying nuclear weapons and are considered part of the strategic arsenal of the United States. The withdrawal of intermediate range missiles and their replacement with aircraft having a nuclear capability proves not only that no progress is being made toward disarmament, but the contrary. [passage omitted]

Applying the principle of the "circulation of arms," the United States is also carrying out an intensive campaign to blackmail the "negative example" within NATO, which reduces or gets rid of the American presence, on the one hand, and to praise the "positive example" of Atlantic solidarity, on the other. What the American leaders think and the way that they consider the alliance and their allies is best illustrated by the arrogant threat of General Vernon Walters, Reagan's special envoy, addressed to the Spaniards: "We will leave, but we will not forget." [passage omitted]

French Parliamentary Group Departs 27 Jan

AU271947 Tirana Domestic Service in Albanian 1900 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] The group of deputies of the French National Assembly, led by Deputy Michel Berson, left Albania today. They were seen off at Rinas Airport by Deputy Rolanda Dhimitri, deputy chairwoman of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the People's Assembly; Jorgo Melica, chairman of the Albanian Committee For Friendly and Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries; and other comrades.

Philippe Legrain, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the French Republic to the People's Socialist Republic of Albania, was also present.

During their stay in Albania, the French parliamentarians visited Kruje, Durres, Berat, Fier, Gjirokaster, and Sarande Districts, where they acquainted themselves with the history of the Albanian people and their achievements in the country's socioeconomic development.

Officials Attend District Council Meetings

AU271312 [Editorial Report] Tirana BASHKIMI in Albanian on 23 January on page 2, and on 25 January on page 2, carries 4,000-word reports on the meetings of the People's Councils in various districts.

The paper on 23 January carries a 1,800-word report by Pellumb Bataj on the meeting of Durres District People's Council on 22 January, attended by Adil Carcani, AWP Central Committee Politburo member. It was stated at the meeting that "last year's experience testifies to the efforts on the part of advanced collectives, sectors and brigades to carry out their tasks. Forty-three enterprises fulfilled their tasks, producing 21 million leks above the plan, and 600 new articles. In agriculture, wheat, rice, and bean targets etc. were exceeded, small herds were increased and consolidated, and milk production was increased. But there were also significant deficits created during the year. For example, 86.4 million leks worth of industrial production was not achieved." The meeting is reported to have criticized some cooperatives for failing to meet their wheat targets.

The paper also carries a 1,000-word report by Tomor Jolldashi on the meeting of Elbasan District People's Council, date not given, attended by Manush Myftiu, AWP Central Committee Politburo member. It was said at the meeting that "successes were recorded by workers at the "Steel of the Party" Combine last year. This was the first year that this combine succeeded in processing all our minerals and producing Albanian steel from them. Twenty-four new types of steel were produced in 1987, compared with 16 in 1986, enabling the engineering industry to gradually free itself from imports. The engineering works of the combine gave a good example, fulfilling its own needs entirely from home-produced steel." Myftiu is reported as saying in his speech that "Last year's achievements in the steel combine are a step forward. But particular attention must be devoted to the production of pig iron and to economizing on saving raw materials and electricity, and increasing the technical efficiency of some production lines in some departments."

The paper also carries a 1,000-word report by Fatmir Thaci on the meeting of Kruje District People's Council on 22 January, attended by Besnik Bekteshi, AWP Central Committee Politburo member. It was said at the meeting that "general industrial production last year was 2 percent higher than in the previous year." Bekteshi is reported as saying in his speech that "Kruje has favorable conditions for agriculture. But yields in various cooperatives remain low and variable, especially in cereals and some industrial crops. This year the attention of working people should be concentrated more on cereals, and especially on corn, in which results in 1987 were poor."

The paper also carries a 600-word report by Sokrat Ndrecka on the meeting of Lushnje District People's Council, date not given, attended by Niko Gjyzari, chairman of the State Planning Commission. It was stated at the meeting that the district wheat yield last year was 48.7 quintals per hectare.

The paper on 25 January carries a 1,000-word report by Gezim Podgorica on the meeting of Shkoder District People's Council, attended by Prokop Murra, AWP Central Committee Politburo member. The report states that Murra in his speech concentrated on problems of stock-raising.

The paper also carries a 600-word report by Izet Duraku on the meeting of the Kukes District People's Council, date not given, which was attended by Vangjel Cerrava, AWP Central Committee Politburo candidate member. According to the report, it was stated at the meeting that the district fulfilled its general industrial production plan in 1987 by 100 percent.

The paper also carries a 600-word report by Shpetim Shehu on the meeting of Berat District People's Council, date not given. According to the report, "the People's Council dwelt upon underfulfillments. Most of them carry the 'mark' of subjective factors. The most important of these are in the oil sector, which fulfilled its plan by 87 percent."

The paper also carries 600-word reports by Gezim Redhaj, Shkelqim Hajno, Lutfi Gjoni, and Ilir Dhima, on the meetings of the People's Councils in Tepelene, Sarande, Librazhd, and Mat, dates not given. According to the reports, it was stated at the meetings that Sarande and Librazhd Districts fulfilled their general industrial production plans by 99 and 104.1 percent respectively. According to the report on the People's Council in Mat, it was said at the meeting that "Despite all the efforts that have been made, it must be stressed that a sense of responsibility for one's duty and a spirit of mobilization has not been noticed among everybody. Therefore the general industrial production plan last year was 87.2 percent fulfilled. Among other things, the deficit in chrome production exerted the great influence: the export plan for this mineral was only 64 percent fulfilled. The meeting of the People's Council criticized the inadequate work of cadres and specialists in the mineu and the inadequate preparation of reserve stocks, the poor maintenance of equipment and machinery, cases of the breach of technical discipline, etc."

BCP Convenes National Conference 27 Jan

Importance of Conference Noted

AU272016 Sofia BTA in English
1857 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] Sofia, January 27 (BTA)—The main thing in the work of the National BCP Conference, due to start tomorrow, is the development of means and approaches for the further implementation of the concept on the development of socialism in Bulgaria, adopted by the BCP CC Plenum of July 1987. The conference will not be dealing with organizational issues, stated today Mr Yordan Yotov, member of the Politburo and secretary of the BCP CC, at a meeting with 150 foreign journalists and a large number of Bulgarian reporters.

He spoke at the first of a series of press conferences with Party, state and economic officials due to be held during the forum.

Mr Yordan Yotov reminded his audience that in the history of the Bulgarian Communist Party there have been cases when forums of a lower range have made important decisions. The most vivid example in this respect is the April Plenum of the BCP CC of 1956 which restored the Leninist norms of Party and public life. This can also be said of the July Plenum of the BCP CC of 1987 which adopted the concept and new model for the construction of the socialist society.

Mr Yordan Yotov said that the most important thing about the concept is its wholeness, i.e. raises the task to carry out changes in all fields of material and intellectual life. According to him, the essence of restructuring is similar to the processes under way in the socialist community and before all in the Soviet Union, it reflects the democratization of life in Bulgaria. The implementation of the main aspects of the concept has started in the six months after its adoption. These aspects are related to the transference of the socialist property to the workers' teams for management and the introduction of self-management.

The concept reflects the BCP's traditions and experience in the construction of socialism. Mr Yotov said that it is national by nature but reflects the main tendencies and laws in the socialist community as well as in the world: techno-scientific progress, the dangers of nuclear war and ecologic disaster.

Mr Yordan Yotov offered explanations on the step-by-step nature or restructuring, on the difficulties and the ways for their overcoming and on the new tasks for the media and in the field of ideology.

Conference Opens, Zhivkov Speaks

AU280814 Sofia BTA in English
0801 GMT 28 Jan 88

[Text] Sofia, January 28 (BTA)—The national conference of the BCP started here today. Taking part are 3196 delegates and 472 guests from the Bulgarian Agrarian Party and non-party members.

The conference will be studying the draft on the restructuring and the further construction of socialism in Bulgaria.

Mr. Todor Zhivkov, secretary general of the CC of the BCP and president of the State Council, read an introductory speech on the report, which has been circulated in advance.

Zhivkov Report to Conference

AU280923 Sofia BTA in English
0733 GMT 28 Jan 88

["Todor Zhivkov's Report to the BCP National Conference"—BCP headline]

[Text] Sofia, January 28 (BTA)—"Restructuring—the Work of the Party, the Work of the People"—this is the title of the report of Mr Todor Zhivkov, secretary general of the CC of the BCP and president of the State Council, to the National Conference of the BCP opened here today.

Mr Todor Zhivkov stressed that the national Party conference is called upon to strike a balance of what has been achieved, to map out the basic problems and tasks in the further implementation of restructuring in Bulgaria up to the next, the 14th Congress of the BCP, and to rally the forces of the party and the people in the transformation of this historic work into life.

He recalled that the 13th Congress of the BCP held in 1986 reached the conclusion that profound changes are necessary in society. This congress formulated the new strategic course for the further implementation of the Leninist April line of the BCP—the course to a qualitatively new development. This course, Mr Todor Zhivkov said, was prompted by the new realities in Bulgaria and in the world.

It marked the beginning of a crucial stage, and this spelled the elaboration of a new concept for the further construction of socialism in Bulgaria on the basis of a revolutionary road of development.

In the period following 1956, Bulgaria made a real leap forward in its development, Mr Todor Zhivkov said, but life has shown that the potentials of the model of socialism which prevailed so far in Bulgaria have already exhausted themselves. A qualitative turning point has taken place in the development of the productive forces in the world, mankind was faced with the dilemma to

survive or to perish, the socialist countries embarked upon a new stage of dynamic development, and profound and all-round processes of innovation are taking place in the Soviet Union.

The restructuring realized under the leadership of the CPSU is of paramount importance not only for the Soviet state but also for world socialism and mankind as a whole, Mr Todor Zhivkov said.

The coincidence in principle of the aims, the tasks and the trends of the restructuring underway in Bulgaria and the Soviet Union is of particular importance. "This conclusion was explicitly stressed at our meeting with Mikhail Gorbachev", the Bulgarian Party leader said.

Dwelling in detail on the new model of socialism in Bulgaria, approved by the July 1987 Plenum of the CC of the BCP, Mr Todor Zhivkov pointed out that it was developed on the principles of Marxism-Leninism, that it is in line with the communist ideals and that it is based on the strategic course mapped out at the 13th Congress of the BCP.

The principal aim envisaged in the new concept is to turn Bulgaria into a highly-advanced and civilized socialist state. This makes the welfare of the people and the creation of ever better material, social and cultural conditions for the life of the people the immediate task of the restructuring.

Now, Mr Todor Zhivkov said, we have a concept which is comprehensible to all working people. The concept is an open system —it will be further developed, added to and specified when the conditions change and with time.

The secretary general of the CC of the BCP stressed that the concept is consistent with the concrete conditions in this country and that it refers to socialism in Bulgaria.

The overall model of socialism is based on the objective laws operating in our society in the current stage and on the principles ensuing from these objective laws: unity and multiformity of socialist property, democratic centralism and socialist self-management.

The report gives prominence to the analysis of the approaches to the solution of the problems of restructuring in Bulgaria.

"We need approaches which would make our society dynamic, open, sensitive to everything new and capable of adapting itself quickly and painlessly to changing conditions, of fully developing its abilities and possibilities and of fully revealing its advantages", Mr Todor Zhivkov said.

The intellectualization of the production process and of all other activities on the basis of the achievements of the scientific and technological revolution is a new aspect of development.

New forms of government have been established: the new bodies of the Council of Ministers, the new territorial systems, the management of the economy, etc. A number of old bodies of leadership had long proved their inviability.

Stressing that restructuring is not a single act but a continuous process, Mr Todor Zhivkov said that old structures and forms will exist along with the new ones in the economy for some time.

He spoke of the technological innovation and the structural reorganization of production, of the building of a unified technological infrastructure and of the changes in the structure of the investments. Thus, for instance, in 1988 three quarters of the capital investments made in production will go to technological innovation.

The restructuring in Bulgaria's economy will also give an impetus to the automation of a number of productions, to a qualitatively new level of the servicability indices and of profitability.

Mr Todor Zhivkov called attention to the economic tooling of restructuring. As a result of long quests and discussions, he said, we are now furnished with the new economic regulators of the economic mechanism, with the procedures of assigning socialist property to the workforces for management and administration, with a new way of labour remuneration.

Mr Todor Zhivkov said that the Politburo of the CC of the BCP will soon meet to consider a new framework of ideas on the development of home trade.

The problems of restructuring will be further elaborated for the cultural sphere, for law and for health care.

As a top priority, Mr Todor Zhivkov singled out the need for the people to take up restructuring as their vital concern.

"Complicated processes of reviewing the old and of asserting the new are taking place in the consciousness of the people and in the operation of the workforces," he said. "Restructuring is gaining momentum and is growing apace. There is no alternative to restructuring. As a whole, the people and the party are all for restructuring," said the secretary general of the CC of the BCP.

At the same time, he pointed out that in the favourable conditions created in this country for a further progress of restructuring, it is crucial that the spirit and the essence of this process be instilled into millions of people and that this spirit and essence take hold in their practice.

Mr Todor Zhivkov listed the conversion of the workforces and the territorial communities into managers of socialist property and into agents of its administration as

a factor of restructuring. Economic regulators should be extended unadulterated to each citizen. Individual and public interests should be guaranteed.

"Now we centre our hopes on the new principle of labour remuneration, on the piece-rate system, on the profit-centre system, on the workteam organisation of labour to tap the profit motive of the individual," Mr Todor Zhivkov said.

The report made a point of the need to promote socialist democracy. It was indicated that managers should compete for their jobs, that electivity should be applied on a wider scale, not just in the management of the economic organisations and the territorial communities, but also in the administration of the state departments, research centres, cultural organisations and offices. Conditions should be created for a real public discussion. Laws and civil liberties should be held sacred and strictly respected.

"The new-type socialist democracy should be provided with a legal framework," Mr Todor Zhivkov said.

The legal system needs to be reformed, new laws have to be enacted, and the operation of the judicial authorities and the prosecutor's offices must be reorganised. "One rule should be rigorously observed: No decision by a party, state and economic body at whatever level should be allowed to be inconsistent with the law of the land," the Bulgarian leader emphasised.

Discussing the activity of the public organisations, he indicated that the authorities should not oppose the formation of independent societies and groups. However, an understanding of self-government and democracy as anarchy, chaos and demagoguery will not be allowed in the country.

Mr Todor Zhivkov spoke about the need of a new information policy and of overhauling the political, ideological and organisational work, as well as the operation of the mass media.

A special section in the report was devoted to the problems of restructuring the style and the methods of work of the Party itself. The Party cannot supersede either the elective bodies of self-government or the self-governing communities. Leadership by the Party should be based on a political approach.

The latest plenum of the CC of the BCP, held immediately before the national conference, backed the suggestion that a mandate system be introduced into the Party. From now on, the top elective offices in the Party—from the secretary general of the CC of the BCP down to the secretaries of the primary Party organisations—should be held for two consecutive terms at the most or, as an exception, for three terms.

This is a policy of prompt personnel rotation in the entire Party, the Central Committee and its Politburo included.

"The new type of socialist democracy we are seeking will be impossible to achieve if inner-party democracy does not set the pace," said the secretary general of the CC of the BCP.

Winding up his report, Mr Todor Zhivkov discussed the first results of restructuring. He observed that considerable work had been done to introduce the principle of self-management and to reform the functioning of the national economy on an economic basis. Reforms have got underway in the material production, in planning, in agriculture, in the cooperative movement. The country's territorial division was retailored. Major changes were carried out in the upper echelons of state administration.

"These revolutionary transformations already have a positive impact on the country's economic and social progress," Mr Todor Zhivkov said.

He reported positive results in social policy, too.

At the same time, he emphasised that the country is only at an early stage of restructuring, that it has yet to surmount the inevitable difficulties stemming from its limited raw material, feedstock and foreign currency resources, from the fluctuations in the world economy, as well as from the manifestations of indiscipline, of skepticism, of alienation from public life in certain people.

"The problems are intricate and hard to cope with, but our society can solve them," Mr Todor Zhivkov said.

Discussing international relations, the Bulgarian leader pointed out that they develop under the sign of two major phenomena. First, these are the processes of restructuring in Soviet society, which have a deep-felt impact on the international climate. Secondly, these are the first fruits of new political thinking for the improvement of the international situation.

"What matters most about present-day international relations is the growing awareness that peaceful coexistence is an objective law governing global development. Today mankind can only survive and make progress through peaceful coexistence and cooperation among the peoples," Mr Todor Zhivkov said.

He emphasised that new political thinking is a historic necessity and not an ideological platform.

"We welcome the treaty on the elimination of medium- and shorter-range missiles in Europe as a first tangible step towards a nuclear-free world," the Bulgarian leader said.

Mr Todor Zhivkov pointed out that in her foreign policy Bulgaria will persevere in attaching primary importance to her relations with the socialist countries. All-round

prerequsuites have been created to upgrade Bulgaro-Soviet cooperation to a qualitatively new level. Economic cooperation with the CMEA member countries should be brought into line with the requirements of restructuring.

Bulgaria implements an open-door economic policy. Conditions are created for most varied forms of cooperation with western enterprises and companies. Cooperation with the developing countries, Mr Todor Zhivkov said, should be approached in a new way to match the real capabilities, traditions and mutual interests.

Referring to the situation in the Balkans, the Bulgarian leader said: "It is in Bulgaria's vital interests that new political thinking be adopted in the relations among all Balkan states. Let us take from the past and from the present what brings us together. Let us promote wide-ranging, mutually advantageous trade, economic and cultural contacts on a bilateral and multilateral basis."

Further on Visit of Colombian Minister

Mladenov Toast at Dinner

AU271813 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 26 Jan 88 p 6

[Report on the toast of Petur Mladenov, member of the BCP Central Committee Politburo and minister of foreign affairs, at the 25 January official dinner in Sofia in honor of Julio Londono Paredes, Colombian minister of foreign affairs]

In his toast, the leader of Bulgaria's diplomacy stressed that what one needs today in the area of international relations is good will, regard for the legal interests of all participants in international life, mutual respect, and recognition of the sovereign rights of nations—all which we call the new political thinking. We know, he said, that the international problems of the modern world are complex and intricate. However, we are all equally interested in removing the nuclear danger and securing world peace. Bulgaria and the other socialist countries proposed to create a comprehensive system of international peace and security within the UN framework. Petur Mladenov emphasized that we rejoice at the fact that Colombia shares our approach and supported our initiative at the world organization.

Expressing our country's high assessment of the recent meeting between Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and U.S. President Ronald Reagan, the Bulgarian foreign minister pointed out that the first and decisive step toward a nuclear free world was made by signing the treaty on eliminating medium- and shorter-range missiles.

Stressing the special importance of the struggle for peace, we do not in the least ignore the other global dangers, the Bulgarian minister said. We greet the initiatives of Colombia as well as the personal initiatives of its president, Virgilio Barco, to eliminate absolute poverty and hunger in the world. Bulgaria also has its initiatives on the ecological defense of the Balkans and Europe. Even those two examples alone show that there are no small and big countries and peoples in the joint struggle to save and further develop human civilization.

Speaking about the problem of the developing countries' foreign debts, Minister Petur Mladenov noted that in terms of its character and scope this problem has gone beyond its economic boundaries and acquired political overtones. The only lasting solution of this problem consists of restructuring international economic relations on a just and democratic basis.

The Bulgarian foreign minister pointed out that respecting the free will and self-determination of the peoples can and must become the foundation of present and future international contacts. It is, namely, from this point of view that we assess Colombia's contribution to the work of the Contadora Group and the Group of Eight, related to finding a political solution to the problems of Central America.

Speaking about the forthcoming BCP National Conference, which will discuss the profound restructuring of social life that is taking place in our country, Minister Petur Mladenov expressed confidence that these transformations will further enhance Bulgaria's peace-loving foreign policy and will render it more efficient and fruitful.

Our government, he said, notes with satisfaction the obvious activation of political contacts and cultural exchange between the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Republic of Colombia. As far as trade-economic relations are concerned, we can help each other by developing new forms of cooperation, with which we could create a solid material foundation for the two peoples' further mutual acquaintance and cooperation, Minister Petur Mladenov said in conclusion.

Minister's Statement on Departure

AU271841 Sofia BTA in English 1800 GMT 27 Jan 88

["Statement of Colombia's foreign minister"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, January 27 (BTA)—Before leaving Bulgaria today, Mr Julio Londono Paredes, minister of foreign affairs of Colombia, assessed his visit here as a manifestation of the two nations' willingness to develop further their cooperation.

He told journalists of his satisfaction with his meetings with State Council President Todor Zhivkov and with other high-ranking Bulgarian officials.

The guest stated that there are no obstacles to the broadening of the bilateral trade and economic relations. "What is important to us is that Bulgaria is offering interesting products for export and I am sure that our trade exchange will increase after the signing of the necessary documents."

The Colombian minister said that the two countries can also exchange specialists in different fields.

"We can learn a lot from Bulgaria," said Colombia's chief diplomat. "This is a country which has managed in a short time to construct a developed industry and to double its agricultural output. These are important achievements and the exchange of experience is in the interest of both countries.

Dwelling on the political and diplomatic relations between Colombia and Bulgaria the minister pointed out their favourable development on the basis of mutual respect, understanding and support on the main issues of international relations. Bulgaria, as well as Colombia, are striving for consolidation of the cooperation in their geographical regions. Our two countries are on the joint position that the conflict situations in the world must be solved through constructive political means, without interference in internal affairs and without violation of the principles of self-determination of states.

In the same line are also our positions on the regional questions about which we informed each other, pointed out he. The settlement of the problems existing in Latin America is rather complicated. That is why it is necessary to build a system of complete trust, in order to stabilize the situation in the region respecting the interests of all states situated there. At the same time the turning of the Balkans into a zone free of nuclear and chemical weapons is not only in interest of Bulgaria and the other states in the peninsula but also in interest of entire Europe. The efforts on regional level represent an important contribution to peace, security and understanding in the whole world, said Mr Julio Londono Paredes.

Colombian Minister Departs

AU271955 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1830 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] The 3-day official visit to Bulgaria of Julio Londono Paredes, Colombian foreign minister, ended. At Sofia Airport the guest was seen off by Petur Mladenov, minister of foreign affairs, deputy ministers of foreign affairs, and other officials.

Bochev Discusses Upcoming Balkan Conference

AU261513 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 22 Jan 88 p 1

[BORBA Special Correspondent Nenad Briski report on an interview with Bocho Bochev, deputy chief of the Department for Balkan Countries in the Bulgarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs—place and date not given]

[Text] Sofia, 21 Jan—"We hail Comrade Raif Dizdarevic's idea on the meeting of foreign affairs ministers from the Balkan countries. Our country was one of the first to accept participation at the meeting. We are convinced that the meeting can play a significant role in strengthening cooperation among Balkan countries and that it can give new stimuli to different ideas, which individual Balkan countries have presented at different times," Bocho Bochev, deputy chief of the Department for Balkan Countries in the Bulgarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, said in an interview for BORBA.

Bochev added that intensive preparations for the conference are under way in the ministry at the moment and that a Bulgarian delegation will come to the meeting with a position on a number of questions it considers significant. In doing so, it is guided by the position that it is necessary to seek elements which can bring Balkan countries closer, which contribute to finding new possibilities for cooperation, and strengthening confidence, security, and peace.

Answering the question on the extent to which the tempestuous past of the Balkans, disagreements, and accumulated distrust still influence present relations, Bochev says that it seems to him that the Balkan peoples have learned certain lessons from the past and that there is a desire to turn one's eyes to the future, something which represents a new positive phenomenon in the Balkans.

No Taboo Topics [subhead]

Of course, this does not mean that it is possible to ignore the differences concerning various questions, as well as the existence of different opinions on how to solve those questions. At the same time, these differences cannot be allowed to present an obstacle to furthering cooperation.

Asked whether Sofia thinks that controversial questions should be discussed openly or left for some "better times," Bochev said that there must not be any taboo topics and repeated that controversial questions should not be an obstacle in solving other vital problems in furthering cooperation.

Concerning fields with the greatest possibilities for cooperation, the Foreign Ministry representative stressed that there has already been certain experiences with multipartite cooperation, recalling the conference of rectors of Balkan universities and the meeting on ecology held in Sofia last month. New opportunities for such cooperation are now sought in the fields of politics, economy, transportation, and tourism. Cultural cooperation could play a particularly significant role.

Joint Interests [subhead]

It goes without saying that there will be no cooperation if there are no joint interests and determination, Bochev continued, but it is certain that everybody profits from

cooperation. We could, for instance, unite our intellectual potentials in individual spheres, he added, and appear before Europe as real partners.

Answering the question on Sofia's views on turning the Balkans into a non-nuclear zone, Bochev said that it is in fact a Bulgarian idea too, and that they do not agree with the opinions that a regional approach has no future and that therefore such questions should be primarily solved by great powers. "I think that small peoples and small countries can make their contribution here and that establishing such a zone in the Balkans would undoubtedly be a contribution to the global solution to the problem (of disarmament)," Bochev said.

Asked about his views on the opinion that the Balkans could be proclaimed a zone of peace and confidence, Bochev said that Sofia welcomes all ideas which are met with positive reaction among other Balkan countries, which suit everybody's interests, and contribute to the strengthening of confidence and cooperation.

Finally, when a remark was made that even before the ministerial meeting many commentators are considering the probability of a summit, Bochev recalled that the idea of such a meeting was suggested by Bulgarian President Todor Zhivkov in 1981 and that Sofia thinks that conditions for such a meeting are ripening and that it would play an important role in strengthening the atmosphere of confidence. Of course, he would not be able to say when the meeting could take place, but nevertheless considers it possible.

"Of course," Bochev added, "it is known to me that the Yugoslav side does not consider the ministerial meeting to be a stage toward the summit. We respect that position, but it is possible that the idea will also be discussed at the Belgrade meeting. When neighbors gather together at the same table they can discuss a broad variety of topics. This is why the position was accepted that one must not go to the meeting with conditions set in advance."

Concluding the conversation, the representative of the Bulgarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs said that Sofia attaches primary significance to questions on strengthening peace and security in the Balkans. "We would like to believe that this meeting will mark an extremely significant stage in Balkan development. If it concludes successfully—and we believe it will—the conference will also represent a significant contribution to the releasing of tension in Europe in general."

Further Reportage on Chancellor Kohl's Visit

Meeting With Charter 77 Blocked

AU271506 Paris AFP in English
1447 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] Prague, Jan 27 (AFP)—Police prevented Charter 77 spokesman Stanislav Devaty from meeting aides of West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl on Wednesday, and confiscated documents he planned to give them, dissidents said here.

Police held Mr Devaty at his hometown of Gottwaldov, in the central region of Moravia, between midnight and 7 a.m., forcing him to miss the train to Prague. He was to have attended breakfast with West German officials and fellow members of the dissident movement.

The West German delegation, which included Volker Ruehe, vice-chairman of the governing CDU-CSU coalition's parliamentary group, and Horst Teltschik, Mr Kohl's advisor on foreign policy and security matters, eventually met with Milos Hajek, another Charter 77 spokesman, Jiri Hajek, foreign minister during the 1968 "Prague Spring", and Vladimir Kladec, education minister at the time.

At the 40-minute meeting, the Charter 77 representative told the West German officials that police had confiscated three documents Mr Devaty had planned to show them.

One listed people "unjustly" detained, another was an emigration request from a woman wishing to join her husband in West Germany, and a third protested repressive action taken against Mr. Devaty's workmates, who had backed him when he protested a forced transfer to Slovakia.

Meanwhile, a young couple of East German origin managed to talk briefly with Mr Kohl as he visited a war memorial Wednesday at Lidice, a village razed by the Nazis in 1942.

Despite police attempts to stop them, they told Mr Kohl they wanted to emigrate to West Germany.

Received by Husak, Strougal

LD271631 Prague Domestic Service in Slovak
1600 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] Gustav Husak, president of the Republic, received FRG Chancellor Helmut Kohl, who is in Czechoslovakia on an official visit, in Prague Castle today in the presence of federal Prime Minister Lubomir Strougal.

Both statesmen commended existing mutual relations and voiced the conviction that the visit would help to intensify political dialogue, provide new stimuli for enhancing economic cooperation and cultural exchanges, and serve to consolidate neighborly relations.

Discussing international issues, Gustav Husak and Helmut Kohl welcomed the signing of the Soviet-U.S. treaty on eliminating medium-range and operational-tactical missiles, and came out in favor of pursuing further disarmament talks. They emphasized that progress in disarmament helps to improve the overall international atmosphere and increase confidence and stability in Europe and through the world.

Discusses Expanding Relations

LD271832 Hamburg DPA in German
1633 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Excerpt] Prague (DPA)—Today in Prague, at the end of his first official visit to the CSSR, Helmut Kohl stressed that there was mutual understanding. After 2 days of talks with the new General Secretary Milos Jakes, President Gustav Husak, and Prime Minister Lubomir Strougal, the federal chancellor is expecting more intensive relations in all spheres. The frank words by the head of government in particular fully corresponded with the German views, he said.

Emphasizing economic policy, Kohl and Strougal have decided that at the next meeting in Bonn, probably in September, they will examine economic progress "in a kind of performance check." This included the agreement to link Prague and Nuremberg with a highway and for safety equipment for Czechoslovak nuclear power stations. In addition, Kohl mentioned broader improvements, town-twinning, the combatting of cross-border environmental pollution, youth exchange and humanitarian questions.

The federal chancellor expressed strong support for cultural exchange and presented the Charles University with a 1-year visiting professorship in economics in the Federal Republic. But it was now high time, the chancellor said at a press conference, to establish a cultual institute in Prague. "It simply belongs here, as a walk through the city shows." The CSSR government has so far refused to allow the opening of a Bonn cultural institute out of consideration for the GDR, and observers do not expect any rapid change in this stance.

The friendly readiness of the Czechoslovak Government for open talks partly exceeded the expectations of the German delegation. Members of the delegation were able to talk undisturbed with members of the Charter 77 civil rights organization. Kohl, who is the first German federal chancellor to visit the CSSR in more than 14 years and who in his talks spoke with particular intensity about the federal government's disarmament stance, had a meeting shortly before returning to Bonn by air this evening with Cardinal Frantisek Tomasek, who in an earlier meeting with Federal Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher had complained about restrictions on church work. [passage omitted]

Strougal Speaks at Luncheon

LD271746 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1700 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl gave a gala luncheon today at the FRG Embassy in Prague in honor of Federal Premier Lubomir Strougal.

In a speech, he highly appraised his visit to Czechoslovakia, the constructive atmosphere during his talks, and the hospitable welcome accorded him. He expressed the conviction that the two states have opened a new chapter in their relations which will be appreciated by future generations, in the interests of good neighborliness. He stated that his visit to Lidice, where the horrific barbarism of the past is commemorated, should be a symbol of the totally new relations between the two states.

In reply, Lubomir Strougal thanked Chancellor Kohl for his goodwill and his efforts to intensify relations between the two countries in a new spirit. He stressed that the open and businesslike dialogue which has been developed between Czechoslovakia and the FRG at the highest level will be positively reflected in their mutual relations. At the same time, Lubomir Strougal expressed conviction that future cooperation between the two states will become an example for the rest of Europe.

Holds Talks With Jakes

LD271756 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1700 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] Milos Jakes, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, today received FRG Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl. Milos Jakes praised the present course of the Federal Chancellor's visit to Czechoslovakia, the openness and businesslike character of his talks with Czechoslovak representatives, and the clearly expressed political will and readiness of the two sides to carry out further concrete steps on the path of mutually advantageous cooperation between the two neighboring countries.

This approach fully corresponds to the requirements of the present. It is an expression of the awareness of joint responsibility of the two states for strengthening peace and security in Europe, as well as all over the world. The development of mutual relations between the two countries, which belong to different social systems, represents an important contribution toward implementing the policy of peaceful coexistence, building a joint European home for the present generation as well as for future generations.

Milos Jakes positively appraised the balance of contacts between Czechoslovakia and the FRG, particularly in the past few years, and stressed that this development significantly helps to create trust in mutual relations. He also briefed the guest on the principles and main aims of economic restructuring in Czechoslovakia which also opens new possibilities for speeding up progressive forms of economic and scientific-technological cooperation with the FRG.

The two representatives agreed that it is realistic and desirable to support the development of contacts between the parliaments and governments of the two countries, between social organizations, young people, towns, cultural, scientific, and other organizations and institutions in the interest of better mutual knowledge and understanding. In this connection they stressed the importance of cooperation between the two countries in tackling ecological problems.

In discussing the international situation, the two politicians agreed that the agreement on doing away with medium- and short-range missiles must become a point of departure and an impulse for the further dynamic process of disarmament. A necessary step along this path is to achieve, as early as this year, an agreement on a radical reduction of strategic offensive weapons and to quickly conclude a convention on a worldwide ban on the production and elimination of all chemical weapons.

Milos Jakes recalled the joint proposals of Czechoslovakia and the other socialist countries in this direction. He also stressed the readiness of Czechoslovakia and the socialist states to open soon the talks on the reduction of armed forces and conventional arms in Europe. The two representatives expressed satisfaction with the current political dialogue at summit level and spoke in favor of its continuation.

Grants Interview

LD272059 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1830 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] At the end of his offical visit to Czechoslovakia, FRG Chancellor Helmut Kohl granted an interview to the Czechoslovak media. Correspondent Jiri Halousek reports:

[Halousek] Asked whether he considered his 2-day visit to Prague to be a new beginning in relations between the CSSR and the FRG, Helmut Kohl replied:

[Begin Kohl recording, in German with superimposed Czech translation] Yes, I do. I have had unusually important talks with Federal Premier Lubomir Strougal, President Gustav Husak, and General Secretary Milos Jakes, and from all these talks it unequivocally follows that it is high time to point the relations between Czechoslovakia and the FRG in a new direction. We must not forget history, because we must learn its lessons.

I would like to point out that in 12 years this century will end, and in the FRG as well as in your country approximately two-thirds of the people were born and have grown up in the post-war period. These people are asking themselves what the world will be like in the year 2000 or 2020, and what kind of contribution can we in Europe

make? Are we just a ball for the world's superpowers to play with, or do we have a profile of our own? History consists not only of bad chapters.

Prague itself is, indeed, an illustrated textbook of central European history, with its arts, literature, fine art, and architecture. I visited Charles University, the oldest university in central Europe, which is even older than the University of Heidelberg, where I studied. When that university was founded, it followed Prague University in many respects. In other words, we have so much in common that it is our duty to find a common path into the future. [end recording]

[Halousek] The Czechoslovak people want to continue the arms control process that has been initiated. The next question, therefore, was: What was the situation in the FRG? Helmut Kohl replied: [Begin Kohl recording, in German with superimposed Czech translation] I do not think you are alone in this view; we all share it. The FRG is the most important European member of NATO. After the United States, we have the strongest conventional army. We want disarmament. When I was elected federal chancellor, I said I wanted to contribute to ensuring peace with lower levels of weapons. Now the INF treaty that was signed in Washington in December has been accomplished. In 3 weeks I will be having talks with senators in the U.S. capital with a view to getting this treaty ratified.

There is a hope of achieving a treaty on arms control on ICBMs. I am in favor of a 50-percent cut in these. We in NATO want progress to be achieved in all spheres—in conventional weapons, in short-range missiles that threaten you in the CSSR and us in the FRG directly, and in chemical weapons, too. In short, I am convinced that we will make progress in these matters. I am a realist, but here I have cause for optimism. [end recording]

Gives Press Conference

LD272108 Prague CTK In English 1949 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] Prague Jan 27 (CTK)—West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl spoke very positively at a press conference here today of the results of his two-day official visit to Czechoslovakia, describing it as very significant.

He described his visit as exceptional, saying it was practically the first official visit by a West German chancellor to Czechoslovakia which had an exclusively working character. In this connection he said that the major aim of former Chancellor Willy Brandt's visit to Czechoslovakia 15 years ago was to sign a historical treaty on mutual relations.

Chancellor Kohl further stressed that the present international situation is favourable for opening a new chapter in Czechoslovak-FRG relations. Thanks to the positive development of relations between the Soviet Union and the USA, some progress has been marked in East-West relations and the creation of new confidence has become not only the cause of the two countries but of all the other states, including the FRG and Czechoslovakia. He appreicated his substantial interesting talks with top Czechoslovak party and state representatives. He characterized them as unprecedentedly open and stressed that he was given important information on the advance and prospects of restructuring in Czechoslovakia.

The West German chancellor further pointed at the press conference to the identity of views on the development of bilateral relations, regular top-level political dialogue, friendship ties between towns, environmental protection, cultural exchanges, exchanges between youth organizations and a reasonable solution of humanitarian issues.

Speaking about the possibilities of the further development of economic and trade cooperation, Helmut Kohl said an agreeable advance has been achieved inter alia in direct contacts between enterprises but stated that there exist considerable reserves for instance in banking and cooperation on third markets.

"The deep impression which the visit to Lidice made on me underlined in my eyes the significance of lessons drawn from history", Helmut Kohl said at the conclusion of his address and thanked for the hospitable and welcoming reception in the capital of Czechoslovakia. He also said he invited Czechoslovak Premier Lubomir Strougal to pay an early visit to the FRG. It is necessary that neighbours who went together through such a long stage of European history do their best for the present century to end in conditions of good-neighbour relations between Czechoslovakia and the FRG.

The West German chancellor fully supported the process of disarmament talks between the Soviet Union and the USA. He said that during his February visit to the USA he will use his influence to support the ratification of the treaty on the elimination of medium- and shorter-range missiles in the U.S. Congress.

He said in this connection that he had always made it clear that it would be bad if the treaty were not ratified in the USA. The time has ripened for further disarmament steps, he said when speaking about the support for 50 per cent cuts in strategic weapons and a complete elimination of chemical weapons. According to what he said, the FRG is equally interested in a reasonable solution of the question of short-range missiles and conventional arms limitation.

The road towards disarmament must be pursued without illusions, he stressed. However, he gave an evasive answer to questions of the FRG's stand on limiting extensive military exercises and possible modernization of short-range missiles within NATO saying he "saw no danger" and considered them "premature".

He also said the FRG plans to use its current chairmanship in the EEC for reaching a substantial progress in relations between the community and the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance and for the conclusion of a respective treaty.

He stressed also some concrete spheres of bilateral cooperation in road transport, improving safety of nuclear installations and in environmental protection.

He said that in international relations cultural exchanges must not be forgotten and laid stress on their improvement.

Holds Final Talks With Strougal

LD272116 Prague CTK in English
1958 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] Prague Jan 27 (CTK)—Czechoslovak Premier Lubomir Strougal and visiting West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl met here for final talks tonight.

They highly appreciated the matter-of-factness, concreteness and openness of Kohl's discussions with the supreme Czechoslovak representatives and stressed the further development of contacts and cooperation between the two countries in the political, economic, cultural and social spheres. Lubomir Strougal and Helmut Kohl exchanged a list of concrete tasks ensuring the development of this cooperation and agreed to control their fulfilment within a year.

The West German chancellor invited Lubomir Strougal for a visit to West Germany. The invitation was accepted.

Leaves Prague 27 Jan

LD272130 Prague Domestic Service in Czech
2000 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] Helmut Kohl this evening ended his official visit to Czechoslovakia and left for the FRG. The final ceremony at Ruzyne Airport in Prague, decorated with both countries' state colors, began at 1930. The Czechoslovak and FRG national anthems were played, and Helmut Kohl, accompanied by Lubomir Strougal, accepted the salute from the commander of the honor guard of the Prague garrison which was mounted in his honor with its regimental colors on the airport apron.

Both statesmen reviewed the honor guard. Then the federal chancellor took his leave of our officials. The guard then honored Helmut Kohl with a march past. After the good-bye handshakes and parting words with Federal Premier Lubomir Strougal, FRG Chancellor Helmut Kohl boarded the plane which took off for Bonn shortly before 2000.

Further Reportage on Bilak's Visit to Syria

Agreements Signed; Departs

LD271810 Prague CTK in English
1558 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] Damascus Jan 27 (CTK correspondent)—An agreement on cooperation between the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia and the Ba'th Arab Socialist Party of Syria for 1988-89 was signed at the close of talks between representatives of the two parties here today.

The agreement provides for intensified cooperation between the two parties and defines concrete spheres where the two parties will exchange experiences from their work.

The agreement was signed by Czechoslovak Communist Party Presidium Member and Central Committee Secretary Vasil Bilak and Assistant Secretary-General of the Ba'th Party 'Abdallah Al-Ahmar. [name and title as received]

Later in the day Vasil Bilak left for a working visit to Athens, taking place at the invitation of the leadership of the Panhellenic Socialist Movement.

Communique Issued

LD272022 Prague CTK in English
1902 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] Damascus Jan 27 (CTK correspondent)—Czechoslovakia and Syria are interested in a further all-round deepening and expansion of bilateral relations on the basis of a treaty on friendship and cooperation of 1985, said a communique on a friendly working visit of Vasil Bilak, Presidium member and secretary of the Czechoslovak Communist Party Central Committee, to Syria, issued here today.

The visit took place on January 24-27 at the invitation of the Syrian Ba'th Arab Socialist Party.

The two sides appreciated the international significance of the U.S.-Soviet treaty on the liquidation of medium- and shorter-range missiles as an expression of realism and responsibility of statesmen, of the new thinking in international relations, and underlined the importance of an early ratification of the treaty in the interests of the process of detente and further improvement of the international atmosphere.

The two sides stressed the necessity to liquidate all nuclear weapons in the world and to halt the arms race. They expressed support for the Soviet Union's policy and its peace initiatives, the communique said.

The Czechoslovak and Syrian representatives concentrated during their talks on the tense Middle East situation and stressed that a just and durable peace in the area

can be restored only on the basis of a complete withdrawal of Israel from all occupied Arab territories, including the Arab part of Jerusalem, and realization of the inalienable national rights of the Arab people of Palestine in harmony with the U.N. resolutions, the communique continued.

The two sides called for the convocation of an international conference on the Middle East with the participation of all sides involved and expressed solidarity with the uprising of the Palestinian people on the occupied territories which proves that the Palestinian people reject the Zionist occupation.

They supported the Lebanese people in their struggle against the Israeli occupation of a part of the country and stressed that the problem can be solved only through national reconciliation on the basis of the ensurance of the country's unity. The Czechoslovak side appreciated the role of Syria in Lebanon which contributes to the achievement of the country's national aims and normalization of the situation.

The Czechoslovak and Syrian representatives expressed their concern over the continuation of the Iran-Iraq war and called for an early halting of the conflict on the basis of peace negotiations.

The Czechoslovak side supported Syria's initiatives aimed at convening an international conference under the auspices of the U.N. which would define terrorism and the difference between terrorism and a legitimate struggle of nations.

The two sides expressed concern over the aggravating situation in the South African Republic and resolutely condemned the policy of racial discrimination of the South African regime. They called for an end to the policy of that regime and the halting of its repressive methods, the communique underlined.

Prague Citizens 'Swarm' Alexandr Dubcek

AU271418 Vienna KURIER in German
27 Jan 88 p 3

[Text] Many citizens of Prague could hardly believe their eyes at the weekend [23-24 January]: Alexander Dubcek, the party leader of the Prague Spring, who is still officially outlawed, actually went for a walk in the streets. The people recognized him, swarmed around him, exchanged memories with him, and asked for autographs. Dubcek warned the people that an encounter with him could have "dangerous" consequences. But the reply was only: "I do not care about that." Dubcek had visited galleries and shops in Prague and attended a performance of the National Theater in the evening. The events surrounding Dubcek should certainly not be regarded as a sign of liberalism. For example, the negotiations between Prague and the Vatican on appointments to 10 vacant bishoprics have failed. Bonn's Chancellor Kohl arrived for a visit in Prague on Tuesday [26 January].

Rohlicek Answers Questions on Retructuring

AU270820 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech
22 Jan 88 p 3

["On the Comprehensive Restructuring of the Economic Mechanism; Rudolf Rohlicek, CSSR first deputy premier and chairman of the Government Committee for Problems of Planned National Economic Management, Replies to Questions from RUDE PRAVO and PRAVDA Readers"]

[Text] On 22 December RUDE PRAVO published the resolution of the seventh session of the CPCZ Central Committee on the comprehensive restructuring of the economic mechanism in the CSSR. Its publication has met with considerable response throughout Czechoslovak society because it offers a more specific look at what is in store for us. That is why we invited RUDE PRAVO and PRAVDA readers to participate in a long-distance press conference. Their questions concerning the comprehensive restructuring of the economic mechanism will be answered by Comrade Rudolf Rohlicek, CSSR first deputy premier and chairman of the Government Committee for Problems of Planned National Economic Management. Today we publish the first part of his replies.

Vratislav Ripa, Podebrady: There was talk of a substantial 30 to 50 percent cut in the size of the state and economic administrative apparatus. But such talk seems to have stopped recently. Why?

Josef Kreutzer, Pribram: How much labor will be released for the national economy through the restructuring of sectors?

Answer: The restructuring of the economic mechanism means the introduction of a qualitatively new system of national economic management. This naturally requires a corresponding change in the jurisdiction, forms of work, and organization of the links of management throughout the management axis. This arises from the Principles for the Restructuring of the Economic Mechanism and is also codified in the Resolution of the Seventh Session of the CPCZ Central Committee on the Comprehensive Restructuring of the Economic Mechanism and its provisions.

Specific principles have been drawn up for restructuring the organizational structure of the production-technical, research, and retailing base on the principle of two-tier management, and provisions for their execution have been adopted. In a few days the Federal Government will discuss these principles as a binding directive for further work in this area. Changes in the organizational structure in this sphere will be carried out in two stages in the years 1988 and 1989.

In the sphere of central agencies, the functions and powers will be newly defined in the course of this year and a proposal for their new organizational structure will be drafted. The number of these agencies and their staff

will be reduced. Procedures will also be worked out for carrying out the respective changes. As regards the extent of the reduction of the staff of central agencies, at present it is possible to say only as much as that it must be carried out in a differentiated fashion, on the basis of the new functions and powers of individual agencies. Aggregate figures such as those mentioned in the question—30 to 50 percent—cannot be determined in advance without thorough analysis and assessment and such figures have not been fixed anywhere. On the other hand, a symbolic reduction of staff by a few percent cannot be counted on.

At the same time a plan is being prepared for providing jobs for those who will be released in connection with changes in the central agencies and economic organizations, involving also the solution of concomitant social questions.

Engineer Cestmir Mech, Prague-6: From where shall we get directors capable of new thinking? Why are no classes, lectures, seminars, or discussions on socialist entrepreneurship being organized?

Answer: The preparation of cadres is undeniably a very important aspect of the restructuring of the economic mechanism. A system of raising the qualification level of senior officials in the economic sphere operates already. It concerns deputy ministers, directors of ministerial departments, general directors and their deputies, enterprise directors, and the directors of designated plants. The discussion of individual problems of the restructuring of the economic mechanism within the framework of this system started last year. The forms used differ, depending on the level of management and the sphere of activity. As the work on restructuring and the preparation of new laws and other documents advances, the contents will be gradually deepened.

In line with the CPCZ Central Committee resolution on comprehensive restructuring and provisions for it, study of the new system of economic management will be introduced in all types of political, economic, legal, and other forms of education and exchange of experiences on new progressive methods of management and operations will be organized, not only for management workers but also for functionaries of National Front organizations and national committees. The new economic mechanism will also gradually be taught at specialized secondary schools and institutions of higher learning. An important role in familiarizing management workers—but not just them—with the new economic mechanism must also be played by televison, radio, and the press.

Mojmir Strakos, Ostrava: An extraordinary role in restructuring is played by price policy. How will the problems in this area be dealt with in practice?

Answer: The chief aim of restructuring is to achieve that prices express as reliably as possible and in accordance with demanding world criteria the development of socially unavoidable costs in relation to the utility value of production and the possibilities of marketing it. Today's prices more often proceed from actual costs, which are not always effectively spent.

The objectification of wholesale and procurement prices will start with their comprehensive restructuring as of 1 January 1989. The new prices should more objectively express the real average costs of our production. The valuation of production factors—that is, basic production assets and human labor—should also come nearer to the actual costs of their reproduction. Changes of retail prices are not considered in this context. The effects of the restructuring of wholesale and procurement prices will be dealt with in the turnover tax and, where appropriate, in subsidies from the state budget.

This basic step will be followed up by the continuous updating of wholesale and procurement prices, under a program which the Federal Government will set out before the end of this year. Of key importance in this process will be the creation of such ties between domestic and foreign prices as will shape national economic proportions with regard to world prices. Naturally, these ties cannot be mechanical and the convergence of the ratios and the level of domestic and world prices will take place through the medium of the price policy of central agencies.

The state will continue to control the development of prices in a planned fashion. The prices of economically crucial raw materials and products influencing the level and the ratios of prices in the economy will be fixed in the plan of the development of prices. Binding rules for the fixing of prices will also be determined centrally and their observance will be strictly checked. Gradually—depending, in particular, on harmony between supply and demand, on the importance of products in consumption, and on the existence of competition among enterprises—the fixing of prices through an agreement between the customer and the supplier will expand and direct interventions by the center in the fixing of prices will decrease.

Albrecht Kovacik, Kosice: The quality of production in many enterprises has improved only since an intervention by commissions of the People's Control Committee. How will it be safeguarded once they leave? Would it not be good to render enterprise inspection agencies independent of the enterprises?

Answer: The new economic mechanism markedly increases not only the independence of economic organizations, but also their economic responsibility for their results. Under a system that will severely curtail subsidies by restricting them to purposes set by the government, that will essentially do away with the possibility of redistributing resources, and in which credits will be made available only for promising and efficient projects, penalties for substandard quality production will be much more strongly reflected in the economic results of

enterprises and their impact on the income situation of the enterprise and its workforce will become much more direct. Besides, there will also be other regulations [promoting good quality]. For example, if an enterprise causes damage to another organization (and the delivery of bad products undoubtedly constitutes such damage), it will have to compensate not only for this damage, but also for lost profits; every enterprise will be obliged to let the recipients of its products inspect these products even during the production process and not only while taking them over; and so forth.

If an enterprise is to bear comprehensive responsibility for its operations, then the enterprise management must also have its own inspection bodies in line with the principle that he who manages exercises control. That is why the inclusion of quality inspection in the powers of the superior agency (given the principle of two-tier management, this would be the branch ministry) would not be in harmony with the "Principles for Restructuring" and would also conflict with the spirit of the law on state enterprises. However, the incentives of enterprise inspection agencies will have to be pegged to the quality of production and not to plan fulfillment in terms of volume.

Jaroslav Mica, Litovel: When will national committees set up their own ecology sections, in the interest of a comprehensive approach to the ecology issue?

Jan Paprskar, Ostrava: By means of a criterial deduction [kriterialni odvod], the documents on restructuring the economic mechanism also deal with the issue of the cost of the reproduction of the environment. Will there be any change in the current inobjective method of compensation for damage, with respect to exhalations, for example?

Answer: Within the framework of the restructuring of the economic mechanism, uniform management and coordination of state policy in the sector of the enhancement and protection of the environment will be implemented; this policy will be regulated at the level of the federation, the republics, and national committees. At this moment it is impossible to say whether specialized divisions—ecology sections—will be set up at national committees for this purpose. In order to safeguard a comprehensive approach to questions of the ecology, uniform coordination of care for the environment and, from the viewpoint of international relations, also the appropriate legislative agenda will be implemented at the federal level. Requirements concerning the enhancement and protection of the environment in territorial planning will be accentuated by fixing binding limits and normative rules concerning the use of local natural resources, by imposing levies on the use of the environment, and by applying fines if it is damaged. The outline of a law on the environment is expected to be issued; it will legally codify the use of resources and the protection and reproduction of the environment and will also establish norms for completing the network of ecology inspection and monitoring agencies.

The levies on the use of the environment and fines for damage to it will be fixed so as to maximally defray social expenses for the protection and enhancement of the environment. Included in these levies will also be the current payments for water and atmosphere pollution, which will be an added item in computing the basis for surrendering profit shares. This means that the organization that is responsible for pollution will defray the costs, in a sum set by the law, from its retained earnings. The existing sanctions, including compensation for damage resulting from exhalations, will be newly assessed in this connection.

We should also not forget that of the greatest benefit to the environment will be the accelerated implementation of ecology-related investment projects and a more rigid look at the ecological repercussions of new investments. The higher fines for pollution will be offset by a healthy environment.

Marian Babjak, Slovak National Museum, Martin: Shall we work our way into a situation in which pay will not be determined, as until now, primarily by seniority, education, wage scale assignment, and the like?

Answer: One of the decisive targets of the restructuring of the economic mechanism is a more consistent assertion of material reward on the basis of actually accomplished work results.

The wage scale assignment will continue to serve as the basis in determining the wages of each employee; it must conform with his qualification (which comprises not only education but also work experience, political maturity, moral qualities, and the like) and the activity which the employee performs; this activity is usually spelled out in the labor contract.

The determination of all flexible, above-tariff components of wages (bonuses, special payments, personal evaluation, and so forth) is within the competence of the enterprise (this principle has been in force since the beginning of 1988). In determining them the enterprise should pay heed, in particular, to specific work performance; it should not pay for labor activity per se but for final work results. This substantially enhances the powers of enterprises. This will also permit greater earnings differentials between average and above-average workers and prevent sloppy workers and constant job-changers from reaping undeserved benefits.

The main tasks in combatting the down-levelling sort of equality and in asserting greater earnings differentials concern not only the center but all management cadres, especially at the basic and intermediary levels.

Pavel Barton, Bratislava: Are there any plans to simplify within the framework of restructuring the current system of taxing wages, by abolishing gross wages, for example?

Answer: The relevant state agencies are currently working on proposals to simplify the current system of the wages tax. The implementation of these proposals should completely or at least partly eliminate the most grievous and most frequently criticized problems in that system.

The principally new codification will be a very sensitive affair because it will affect the net income of the population. Each simplification of taxes will influence the structure of income; for some employees it will lead to an increase in their net income, and for others to its reduction. That is why it will be expedient to link such a simplification with a broader set of measures aimed at safeguarding a further rise in the standard of living.

There are no plans to abolish gross wages in our country at present and to apply so-called net wages, not liable to further levies. Our considerations are, inter alia, influenced by the fact that the experiences of countries that tried to introduce net wages have not been good, which is why they have finally abandoned net wages.

Bohumil Piterka, builder, Drahanovice: Will the existing centrally set system of preferential wages be limited? In other words, will the preferential treatment of some groups of employees be abolished and will enterprises be able to reward according to their own discretion individuals and teams who deserve the greatest credit for plan fulfillment and, in particular, for profits?

Answer: The scope of preferential wages will be greatly limited but the system will not be abolished altogether. To some extent, wage scales will continue to be differentiated according to the importance of branches and production sectors. This is bound up with the need for wages to reflect the importance of work and, to a certain extent, also to influence the allocation of manpower to sectors and branches and, within their framework, also to certain professions.

However, the powers of enterprises in rewarding their employees are being enhanced. Since the beginning of this year, the use of specific wage forms has been passed to the jurisdiction of enterprises. There is nothing that would prevent enterprises from applying greater differentiation in the earnings of individuals and teams, in accordance with work performance.

The employees' stake in generated profit will be increased by the rise in the proportion of wage resources allocated from profits; this proportion will increase from today's average of 1.5 to 3 percent to roughly three times that figure, that is, to 7-10 percent of the total wage bill. In the years of the Ninth 5-Year Plan, this proportion will gradually rise further.

Engineer Vladimir Prikryl, Karlovy Vary: Will the current planning of investment limits for newly started projects, which often forces investors to start building "cost what it may," be abolished?

Answer: As we enter the Ninth 5-Year Plan, the scope of designated tasks and limits in the state plan will be radically reduced—to between one-third and one-quarter of the current state of affairs. The setting of investment limits for newly started projects is no longer foreseen in capital investment.

Capital investment will be within the powers and responsibility of economic organizations; it will be funded from their internal resources and bank credits and implemented without any direct central distribution or limitation of investments and without any redistribution of investment funds at the above-enterprise level. The center will influence the orientation and efficiency of investments primarily through the selection of state programs of development and designated investment tasks, respectively through such financial participation in them as will make sure that their selection ensures the materialization of the latest advances of science and technology, which must find its expression in the efficiency of new investments.

A disproportionately large number of unfinished projects will have serious repercussions on the cash flows of organizations, so that it will be in their own interest to build quickly, inexpensively, and to make sure that the whole project should yield the planned effect.

J. Miklova, worker, Prague-10: What is meant by the term cadre prerequisites? Is it membership in the CPCZ or something else?

Answer: Questions concerning the improvement of cadre policy were dealt with at the Seventh Session of the CPCZ Central Committee, which adopted an important resolution on this issue. It follows from the resolution that cadre policy must be aimed at the utilization of the broad social base of society and the education and abilities of all working people and that the most committed and best qualified workers must be elevated to leading posts.

The following are considered the cadre prerequisites of a ranking management worker—dedication to the cause of socialism and high moral standards, professional qualification, socialist entrepreneurial spirit, and the ability to work with the people and to mobilize all creative powers for the fulfillment of national tasks, for the vigorous acceleration of scientific-technical progress, for the attainment of a high efficiency and quality of production. A ranking management worker must be able to utilize in cooperation with the agencies of the work collective the possibilities arising from the restructuring of the economic mechanism, ensure the meeting of tasks in conjunction with an active social policy, and consistently apply the principle of remuneration according to work results. The success of a management worker must be judged according to the results of the sector which he supervises.

Moral-political qualities have to be evaluated in a far more exacting manner, especially in the case of senior officials. The demand must be asserted that the higher the post, the higher must be the demands on exemplary conduct and on the observance of laws and all principles of socialist ethics.

Michal Benko, Liptovsky Mikulas: Will the restructuring of the economic mechanism affect also the old-age pension scheme?

Answer: The demand that the old-age pension scheme be brought into line with the principles of remuneration according to work results is commensurate with the overall spirit of restructuring and with the intentions of restructuring in the sphere of living standards. After all, the payment of pensions, too, is connected with the evaluation of human labor according to the concrete results and importance of many years of work.

The system of pensions will be adjusted in the course of this year. The basic rate of pensions will be raised and some measures will also be taken to simplify the pension scheme.

Another adjustment of the pension scheme is foreseen for the subsequent period. Within 2 years, measures will be drafted that would ensure even closer ties of pension policy with the efforts to differentiate income according to work carried out and that would more regularly adjust the level of pensions to the growth rate of average earnings in the national economy.

In the Ninth 5-Year Plan, the system of pension insurance will be changed as well, on the basis of attained results.

Computers, TV's Exempt from Import Duty

LD271836 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1730 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] A regulation comes into force on Friday issued by the Ministry of Foreign Trade on the exemption of personal computers, microcomputers and color televisions from import duty, and a regulation issuing a customs tariff for non-trade goods, with explanatory notes.

Duty will no longer be payable on personal computers and microcomputers with an operational memory of up to 512 kilobytes, including their software and components. At the same time, the customs duty is being reduced on imported color televisions. Exemption from import duty is applicable for the import of only one computer and one color television for the duration of this new regulation, which is valid until the end of 1989.

Exemption from import duty for these types of goods must be applied for on crossing the state border. Other formalities will be dealt with by the customs authorities located in the citizen's permanent residence area. Detailed information about the new regulations can be obtained from all customs offices in Czechoslovakia.

Prosecutor Interviewed on Treason Charges
LD271608 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1445 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] Berlin, 27 Jan (ADN)—ADN has conducted the following interview with Public Prosecutor Dr Peter Przybylski, head of the Press Office of the GDR General Prosecuting Attorney's office:

Question: It has emerged in the press that several persons have been imprisoned on suspicion of treasonable relations. What is involved here?

Answer: Those arrested are strongly suspected of having committed actions against the constitutional order of the GDR. They had contacts with persons and institutions outside the GDR state frontiers, whose relations with Western secret services are known. Under GDR criminal law the state prosecutor and the investigating authorities must completely clear up and prosecute crimes of this nature in the interests of protecting society and safeguarding citizens.

Question: What is the present state of affairs?

Answer: Investigations are currently being conducted in line with legal requirements. The accused are all granted the rights embodied in the code of criminal procedure. This also includes the right of defense. As far as the details of the case are concerned, you will appreciate that any comment is ruled out at present in the interests of an unprejudiced establishment of the truth. The scope of the investigations is determined by the publicized suspicion of treasonable relations. Everything will be done to clear up that suspicion as quickly and comprehensively as possible.

Question: Are there any other investigations?

Answer: Yes, in connection with participation in unlawful assembly and other rioting. So far seven persons have thus been given prison sentences of between 6 months and 1 year. With these decisions the courts reacted against attempts to disrupt, through provocative actions, the tribute to the memory and legacy of Karl Liebknecht and Rosa Luxemburg which is a tradition for the Berlin population. The decisions taken by the courts so far are based on the premise that there is no room for such provocations. These verdicts are in line with the legal system of our state and its antifascist tradition.

Churches Hold Church Services for Prisoners
LD272232 Hamburg DPA in German 2134 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] East Berlin (DPA)—There have been services of intercession in Evangelical churches in a number of GDR towns and cities this evening as a mark of solidarity with imprisoned members of independent groups. It was reported at a church function in East Berlin that such services had taken place in Zwickau, Schwedt, Potsdam, Cottbus, Spremberg, and Weimar. Preparations for one in Dresden were in progress. There were such events daily in Leipzig and Jena. Just as in East Berlin, a contact bureau had been set up in Leipzig as a point for information.

In the Galilee Church in East Berlin, Manfred Becker, head of the synod in the Evangelical Church in Berlin-Brandenburg, referred to hopes in the GDR for more publicity. It was painful that the GDR was currently making "such headlines." Many hopes were linked with the name of Soviet party chief Mikhail Gorbachev, but the impression was still being aroused in the GDR that it was not affected by events in the Soviet Union. "Glasnost and Perestroyka are on the agenda in our country, too," Becker said, to applause.

Disruption of March 'Reprehensible'
LD280432 East Berlin Domestic Service in German 2133 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] [Announcer] For the next few minutes, I now ask you to pay attention to some thoughts from Professor Heinz Kamnitzer [president of the GDR pen-center]

[Kamnitzer] The funeral march for the murdered national heroes of our state was intentionally disrupted; it was planned maliciously to desecrate the funeral ceremony for the martyrs of the Communist Party. Some people wanted not to join a demonstration in reverence, but to draw attention to themselves. What happened there is as reprehensible as an act of blasphemy. No church would accept the bringing of disgrace upon a procession to commemorate a Catholic cardinal or a Protestant bishop. It is no more acceptable for us when someone intentionally disrupts and defiles the memory of Rosa Luxemburg and Karl Liebknecht. If one finds a secular comparison more natural, one needs only to imagine a procession to the lasting resting place of Olof Palme being besmirched by protests of whatever type. Moreover, in every civilized country, laws come into effect in such a case to provide punishment when somebody insults the memory of the deceased. Therefore, one is all the more indignant when (Hermann Dockzieh), general secretary of the CDU in Berlin (West), demands that those responsible ought to ask themselves self-critically whether the arrests contribute toward fulfilling the legacy of Rosa Luxemburg and Karl Liebknecht, for he proclaimed 2 months ago to the House of Representatives in Schoeneberg what he understood by this legacy. He said: I believe that the deaths of Rosa Luxemburg and Karl Liebknecht were an objective—certainly not desired—contribution toward making the Weimar Republic possible at all.

Anybody who still justifies that murder in such a way today, approves terrorism in our age, whether he wants to or not. Also, one ought rather not to refer here to the statement of Rosa Luxemburg herself, according to which freedom is always the freedom of the person who

thinks differently [the quotation held up by the unofficial demonstrators at the ceremony]. Indeed, this sentence is found in a manuscript which she wrote during her imprisonment at the beginning of 1918. If one quotes it, one ought not to (?keep quiet) about the fact that she later rejected it [words indistinct] because the German revolution of November 1918 brought about that which the Russian bolsheviks had already (?known) earlier. She herself made clear immediately before her death what her legacy was: "The question placed on the agenda by history reads: bourgeois-democratic or socialist democracy? For the dictatorship of the proletariat is democracy in the socialist sense, and not where the paid slave sits next to the capitalist and the rural proletarian next to the squire in false equality to debate their vital issues in a parliamentary manner. No! It is there, where the million-strong mass of the proletariat seizes the entire might of the state in its calloused fist to smash it sgainst the (?face) of the ruling classes, like the god Thor with his hammer; only there is a democracy in which there is no deception of the people."

One may agree with her or not. However, anyone who suppresses her last findings is either dishonest or ignorant.

Arrests Affect Bonn-Potsdam Twinning Program

LD271526 Hamburg DPA in German 0605 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Excerpts] Berlin, (DPA)—The statements by Bonn's mayor, Hans Daniels (CDU), on the latest arrests of opposition GDR citizens in East Berlin have today led to a serious burdening of the newly forged twinning between Bonn and Potsdam. The program of the 10-strong delegation from Bonn City Council was this morning postponed at the hosts' request. There were also changes made. Potsdam's mayor, Wilfried Seidel, and his first deputy, Werner Gramann, held an hour of talks with Daniels and Bonn's chief executive, Dieter Diekmann.

As a spokeswoman for the Potsdam delegation told journalists afterwards, Seidel had made it clear during the talks that he is not "willing to accept interference in the internal affairs of the GDR." [passage omitted]

At the same time, the Potsdam spokeswoman stressed the hosts' efforts "to maintain the twinning in any case." The program of the visit will now continue in a different form.

Interior Ministry Discusses 1988 Tasks

AU271433 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 26 Jan 88 p 6

[Text] East Berlin (ADN)—The evaluation of the fifth Central Committee session and the tasks for 1988 were at the center of a meeting of leading officials of the Ministry of the Interior in Berlin on Monday [25 January]. The meeting was attended by Wolfgang Herger, Central Committee member and director of the Security Department, Army General Dinkel, minister of the interior and head of the German People's Police, spoke about the increasingly challenging tasks and higher demands that the German People's Police and the other organs of the Ministry of the Interior are facing in permanently safeguarding high public order and security. He stressed that the inner stability of the worker-peasant power continues to be a decisive issue in implementing the 11th SED Congress resolutions and the policy of the party of the workers class aimed at the well-being of the people and at peace. In 1987 further progress was made in fulfilling the tasks for the protection of the national economy and of socialist property, particularly regarding the prevention of criminal offenses, fires, damages, traffic accidents, and other disturbances.

However, it is important to exhaust all possibilities to avert dangers and damages in a more efficient manner. The health and lives of citizens continue to be jeopardized and losses occur for the national economy through carelessness. Dangers of fire are not always recognized in time or too little effort is made in fighting them. Important goods and transport means on the roads and rails are damaged or destroyed as a result of breaches of duty. The enforcement of law and order is the contribution of the members of the Ministry of the Interior toward implementing the policy of the party. This makes it necessary to utilize to an even higher degree the increasing readiness and responsibility of the citizens and all social forces for order, discipline, security, and to develop cooperation with them. The most important demand on the activity of the members of the organs of the Ministry of the Interior is to work for the interests of the people in all situations, to cooperate with them, and to reliably safeguard the legal system and internal security. This characterizes the representatives of the state power wearing the uniform of the People's Police.

Hermann Axen Begins Talks With Bahr in Bonn

LD271634 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1554 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] Bonn, 27 Jan ADN—The joint SED-SPD working group on security policy issues began its second working session in Bonn on Wednesday under the leadership of Hermann Axen and Egon Bahr. The first session of the working group agreed by Erich Honecker and Hans-Jochen Vogel in May 1987 took place in Berlin in November 1987.

In line with the agreement, the joint body is to discuss a new political initiative which links the proposals and initiatives for the elimination of all weapons of mass destruction in Europe with drastic reductions in conventional armed forces and armaments. The goal of this initiative is to make an effective contribution to continuing the disarmament process in Europe.

Political observers believe that favorable opportunities exist for this after the conclusion of the Soviet-U.S. treaty on the elimination of medium- and shorter-range missiles and Erich Honecker's proposals for the elimination of all tactical nuclear weapons on the territories of the two German states.

Hermann Axen, Politburo member and secretary of the SED Central Committee, was welcomed at Cologne-Bonn airport by Egon Bahr, chairman of the disarmament and arms control subcommittee in the Bundestag and SPD Presidium member, Karsten Voigt, representative of the foreign policy working group in the SPD Bundestag group, member of the Bundestag group executive and the of SPD executive, and Ambassador Ewald Moldt, head of the GDR's permanent mission in the FRG.

Hermann Axen told journalists that disarmament and peace preservation are the most important tasks in international politics. The signs for this are especially favorable after the medium-range treaty and in view of Erich Honecker's proposals to Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl on the further reduction of tactical nuclear weapons on the territories of the two German states. Progress in the questions to be discussed by the working group will be in the interests of the citizens of the two German states and, over and above this, will serve disarmament and European security.

Hermann Axen is accompanied by Manfred Uschner, deputy departmental head in the SED Central Committee; Prof. Manfred Mueller, departmental head in the Theory of State Law Institute; Guenther Hillmann, departmental head in the Foreign Affairs Ministry; and Karl-Heinz Wagner, member of staff in the SED Central Committee.

The negotiations are attended on the SPD side, apart from Egon Bahr and Karsten Voigt, by: Erwin Horn, member of the executive of the Bundestag group, and Hermann Scheer, representative of the disarmament and arms control working group in the Bundestag group and member of the SPD party council.

The discussions will be continued on Thursday.

"We hope," said Hermann Axen, "that in view of the complexity of the subject matter and the tasks we have set ourselves, we will make further progress—in the tried and tested and successful style of working together—in our joint efforts to make a political contribution on the part of the SPD and the SED to the disarmament and detente process which is underway.

SED Delegation Meets Spanish CP Leaders

AU271748 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 26 Jan 88 p 5

[Text] Madrid (ADN)—The SED delegation headed by Central Committee member Manfred Feist, which took part in the Congress of the Spanish Socialist Workers Party in Madrid, held talks during its visit with Ignacio Gallego, chairman of the Communist Party of the Peoples of Spain; Simon Sanchez Montero, member of the Executive Committee of the Spanish Communist Party; and other members of both party leaderships. They conveyed greetings from Erich Honecker which were cordially reciprocated. Manfred Feist reported on the Fifth Session of the SED Central Committee and on the assessment of the international situation and the struggle for peace and disarmament. Ignacio Gallego and Simon Sanchez Montero stressed the significance of the Washington missile treaty which must be followed by further steps, and paid tribute to the peace policy of the socialist community, including the activities of the GDR. The representatives of the Communist Party of the Peoples of Spain briefed the visitors on the social struggle and the process to unify the communists in Spain. The representatives of the Spanish Communist Party reported on the preparations for their 12th party congress in February. The talks with both parties, during which the expansion of good relations with the SED was also discussed, took place in a fraternal atmosphere.

GDR-Austria Exhibition Opens in Vienna

AU271408 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 26 Jan 88 p 6

[Excerpts] Vienna (ADN)—An exhibition jointly organized by the GDR and Austria entitled "art and work" showing paintings, graphic, photographic and plastic works was opened in the Vienna Palffy Palace on Monday [15 January]. Hans-Joachim Hoffmann, GDR minister of culture, and Hilde Hawlicek, minister of education and arts of the Republic of Austria, as well as Helmut Zilk, Mayor of Vienna, praised the exhibition as an example of fruitful cooperation between the two countries. The opening ceremony was attended by representatives from Austria's cultural and social life as well as by Klaus Wolf, GDR ambassador to Austria. [passage omitted]

Prior to the opening of the exhibition Hans-Joachim Hoffmann and Hilde Hawlicek had met for an extensive talk during which the further development of cultural cooperation between Austria and the GDR was discussed.

Honecker Birthday Message to Ceausescu

AU271635 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 26 Jan 88 p 1

[ND report: "Cordial Congratulations and Greetings to Nicolae Ceausescu; Erich Honecker Conveys Congratulations on 70th Birthday of the RCP General Secretary and President of the SR of Romania"]

[Text] East Berlin (ND)—Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, has sent the following greetings message to Nicolae Ceausescu, general secretary of the RCP Central Committee and president of the SR of Romania:

Esteemed Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu: On the occasion of your 70th birthday, I convey to you cordial congratulations and fraternal greetings on behalf of the SED Central Committee, the GDR State Council, and of the Communists and working people of the GDR, as well as on my own behalf.

Under the leadership of the party of the workers class the backward agricultural country developed into socialist Romania with a developed industry and an efficient agriculture. You have made a great contribution to this at the head of the RCP and the state of workers and peasants. We show our respect for your untiring work, for peace and social progress, for the peaceful competition between social systems in a world without nuclear and other weapons of destruction.

The members of the SED and the citizens of the GDR are aware of the personal credit you have earned in developing friendship and cooperation between our parties and peoples.

On your day of honor we wish you good health, personal well-being, and creative vigor for your responsible activity.

With communist greetings, E. Honecker

Petition Decries Romanian 'Dictatorship'
WA281241 Paris LE MONDE in French
21 Jan 1988 p 6

[Text] (AFP)—Almost seven hundred intellectuals and members of the Hungarian opposition have signed an open letter of 'solidarity with Romanians who struggle against dictatorship and for democracy.' The signers of this document, which was made public in Budapest on Tuesday, 19 January, expressed their conviction that 'the destiny of central Europe is inseparable from democracy.' On that occasion, the historian Lajos Fur reproached the Hungarian Government for having returned to their country a dozen Romanians who had sought refuge in Hungary. One hundred sixty others would have been threatened by the same measure. Almost six thousand Romanians, most of them of Hungarian origin, are now in Hungary on a temporary permit or illegally.

Slovak Official on National Minority
AU271331 Budapest MAGYAR NEMZET in Hungarian
25 Jan 88 p 4

[CTK report: "Wide Cultural Opportunities—Julius Filler on Situation of Hungarians in the CSSR"]

[Text] Julius Filler, member of the Presidium of the Slovak National Council and chairman of the National Committees and Minorities Committee of the Slovak National Council, gave a report on the situation of the Hungarians national minority to the CTK News Agency. The Hungarians constitute the largest national minority in the CSSR; they number approximately 580,000, and constitute 3.8 percent of the entire CSSR population. They constitute 11 percent of the population of Slovakia. Representatives of the Hungarian national minority also amount to 11 percent of the representatives in the legislative body of the Republic.

Instruction in the Hungarian language is given by approximately 400 kindergartens, 300 elementary schools, 18 secondary schools, and over 50 vocational secondary schools and professional training schools. In addition, Hungarian national minority children can also learn in schools where instruction is in both the Hungarian and the Slovak languages.

Filler said that the Hungarian national minority in the CSSR has extensive educational opportunities. There is an independent publishing house, MADACH, which publishes books in Hungarian, and five Slovak publishers also publish books in Hungarian. In Bratislava, 50 volumes are published every year in different artistic genres. In the CSSR, 19 central dailies and weeklies are published in the Hungarian language, and more than 70 newspapers arrive from Hungary on a regular basis. The CSSR radio and television broadcasts programs for the citizens belonging to the Hungarian national minority.

Concluding his report, Filler emphasized the role of CSEMADOK, the Cultural Union of the Hungarian Working People in Czechoslovakia.

Daily on Anniversary of Agreement With Romania
AU271335 Budapest MAGYAR HIRLAP in Hungarian
26 Jan 88 p 2

[Unattributed article: "Anniversary"]

[Text] In the years following 1945 the countries of the emerging community of people's democracies found natural allies. During the first years of their freedom and independence, when they were striving to reorganize the social order and prepare the socialist change, maintaining a peaceful international atmosphere, relying on each other, and laying the foundations of close relations were very important tasks facing these countries.

The Hungarian-Romanian Friendship, Cooperation, and Mutual Assistance Agreement signed on 24 January 1948 was an important stage in the history of the relations between the two countries following their liberation. The document was signed 40 years ago in Budapest by Hungarian Premier Lajos Dinnyes and his Romanian counterpart Petru Groza. The two government delegations expressed their conviction that "the increasing cooperation between Romania and Hungary in political, economic, and cultural areas will further consolidate the good relations between the two countries and will contribute to increasing the prosperity of the Hungarian and Romanian peoples and to the prosperity of their countries."

In his toast at the time, the Hungarian premier stressed the evaluation of historical experiences and the need to draw the necessary conclusions, and expressed, among other things, the following: "I am convinced that the present agreement will also contribute to making sure that the Danube-basin will no longer be a hotbed of fire but a warm home of peace, work, and friendship between the peoples in the area." In his answer, Premier Petru Groza also referred to the unfortunate events of the past when he stressed that "we know that the people of the young Romanian people's democracy has taken, and will continue to take up the struggle with all its power against everyone who wanted to repeat the historical mistakes." He concluded by saying that the Hungarian people were also inspired by the same spirit.

A Hungarian Party and Government delegation led by MSZMP General Secretary Janos Kadar visited Bucharest in February 1972. On that occasion, taking into consideration the changes that had taken place in the world and the state of the activity of socialist construction, the two partners signed a new friendship, cooperation, and mutual assistance agreement that strengthened the desire to further develop the bilateral relations.

The situation of the Hungarian minority living in Romania and of the Romanian minority living in Hungary, as well as the need to guarantee their minority rights are essential elements in the relations between the two neighboring socialist countries. The multilateral relations between our two countries are not free of problems. The Hungarian leadership consistently urges the complete implementation of the agreements achieved at the meeting between Janos Kadar and Nicolae Ceausescu held in Debrecen and Nagyvarad in 1977. In its activity, the Hungarian leadership is counting, among other things, also on the foundations laid 40 years ago.

Leaders Congratulate Ceausescu on Birthday

AU281056 Budapest MAGYAR HIRLAP in Hungarian 27 Jan 88 p 7

[Text] MSZMP General Secretary Janos Kadar and Karoly Nemeth, president of the Presidential Council, sent a telegram of congratulations to Nicolae Ceausescu on his 70th birthday.

Fejt Meets USSR's Chebrikov, Yazov

LD272100 Budapest MTI in English 1832 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] Budapest, January 27 (MTI)—Gyorgy Fejti, secretary of the HSWP Central Committee at the invitation of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union paid a visit to the Soviet Union heading a delegation of party workers. He had cordial, comradely discussions with Anatoliy Lukyanov, secretary of the CPSU CC, who briefed him on the pace of the social-economic restructuring in the Soviet Union and the practices of amplified socialist democracy and enforced social openess. The HWSP CC secretary spoke on the contemporary domestic issues, measures serving the economic stabilization and advancement, the updating of the systems of political institutions, the tasks related to enlarged democracy. It was concluded that the contacts between the competent organs of the two parties are successfully developing.

Gyorgy Fejti also met Victor Chebrikov, member of the Political Committee of the CPSU CC and president of the State Security Commission and Dimitriy Yazov, member of the Political Committee and minister of defence.

The meetings were attended by Sandor Rajnai, member of the HSWP CC and ambassador of Hungary to the Soviet Union.

The Hungarian Party worker delegation returned to Hungary on Wednesday.

Horn Meets Iranian Leaders 24-27 Jan

LD271817 Budapest MTI in English 1556 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] Tehran, January 26 (MTI)—The Hungarian People's Republic has an interest in the early conclusion of the Iranian-Iraqi War and the negotiated settlement of disputes, it was stressed in Tehran by Gyula Horn, under-secretary of state at the Hungarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, who visited the Islamic Republic of Iran from January 24 to 27 on the invitation of Mohammad Besharati, first deputy minister of foreign affairs. On the Gulf situation, he stressed it is necessary to stop all military activities, guarantee safe navigation and withdraw foreign naval forces, in keeping with the relevant resolution of the Security Council.

Gyula Horn held talks with his host, with deputy prime minister 'Ali Reza Mo'ayeri, with Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati, with Minister of Agriculture 'Abbas 'Ali Zali, co-chairman of the Hungarian-Iranian government committee on economic cooperation, and with Deputy Foreign Minister Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam.

Discussions were held in a cordial open atmosphere on the trends in bilateral relations, the situation of the two countries and international issues of common concern. They confirmed the mutual intention of their governments to continue to expand bilateral links. In this context, they attached particular importance to averting with joint effort the obstacles to the development of economic and trade relations and to the widespread introduction of up-to-date forms of economic cooperation.

On reviewing international questions, the Iranian party emphasized it will go on with the war against Iraq as long as the conditions for the political settlement of the conflict are not created. With regard to the tension in the Gulf region, the Iranian party confirmed that guaranteeing the security of the Gulf is the responsibility of the coastal states alone.

Gyula Horn has left Iran for Syria.

Szuros Receives Austrian CP Delegation

LD272056 Budapest MTI in English 1814 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] Budapest, January 27 (MTI)—At the invitation of the HSWP Central Committee Johann Steiner member of the Central Committee of the Austrian Communist Party, speaker for foreign Affairs and Ulrich Perzinger, member of the CC, deputy-chief-editor of the daily "VOLKSTIMME" visited Hungary on January 25-27.

The ACP delegation met Matyas Szuros, secretary of the HSWP CC. The visiting delegation had meetings with Gabor Borbely, chief-editor of the daily "NEPSZABADSAG", Geza Kotai, head of Foreign Affairs Department of the CC, and deputy-department heads of the CC Janos Barabas and Attila Gecse.

At the discussions of cordial, comradely atmosphere the situation of the two parties was reviewed including their contemporary tasks and the possibilities of extending the cooperation between the two parties with due regard to questions emerging in the field of ideology.

The guests met Janos Nemes chief-editor of "BUDAPESTER RUNDSCHAU" and Janos Dbsa chief-editor of "NEUESTE NACHRICHTEN".

The delegation of the ACP left Hungary on Wednesday.

UK's Orr Visits; Received by Varkonyi

AU271142 Budapest MAGYAR HIRLAP in Hungarian 21-24 Jan p 7

[Text] The chairman of the British Council held talks with his host on topical issues of Hungarian-UK relations and reviewed the possibilities for further developing cooperation between the two countries. Peter Varkonyi, minister of foreign affairs, received the British guest. Sir David Orr held talks with Ivan T. Berend, president of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences; Jozsef Benyi, deputy minister of foreign affairs; and with Gyorgy Nador, director of the International Cultural Institute. He also visited the Technical University of Budapest, the Institutes for Training and Treating the Handicapped.

Lukacs,Sarlos Receive SFRY Delegation

LD272150 Budapest MTI in English 2038 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] Budapest, January 27 (MTI)—At the invitation of the National Council of the Patriotic People's Front (PPF) the delegation of the Socialist Alliance of the working people of Yugoslavia headed by Milojko Drulovic visited Hungary January 24-27. The delegation met Janos Lukacs, secretary of the HSWP CC and Istvan Sarlos speaker of the National Assembly. With the National Council of PPF—Headed by General Secretary Imre Pozsgay—they informed one another on the actual tasks of their movements, reviewed the state of their relation and the contemporary questions of developing co-operation.

Marothy on New Environment, Water Ministry

LD272037 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1730 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Excerpts] The National Assembly's Agriculture and Settlement Development and Environmental Protection Committees have been discussing the sphere of authority of a new ministry. Henrik Havas Reports [passage omitted]:

[Havas] This morning Minister Laszlo Marothy gave account of the progress of the reorganization:

[Begin Marothy recording] We have reached the stage where over the past week I was able to appoint the heads of main departments. By the end of this week the greater part of the shaping of the structure of the ministry will be completed. By the end of next week the ministry will be operational and will be able to perform its duties. Naturally, there is a very important human element in this. Although I can only say the best things about my colleagues with respect to their helpfulness and sense of responsibility, everybody was watching his chair and his desk.

We have arrived at a staff of 350 people in round figures, which represents a saving of 15 percent in staff numbers. [end recording]

[Havas] Laszlo Marothy went to say that the new ministry will have to achieve substantive changes. In other words, a new policy on environmental protection and water management can be expected. Openness and social initiatives will play an especially important part:

[Begin Marothy recording] This work can only be successful if we are doing it in collaboration with the masses. We have therefore recognized that we must provide the greatest degree of openness in the ministry's work as regards our situation, work and tasks, and we must deal professionally with these organizations too, for we must not simply offer friendly pledges, the pledges of collaborators, but we must find the interests that tie us together. This cannot be done in any way but together. [end recording]

[Havas] The first deputy to speak after the minister was Miklos Vida:

[Begin recording] [Vida] Someone ought to help us. This is just a tip, but could the deputies, or at least those interested be given one informative report a month, per quarter, on the Gabcikovo-Nagymaros barrage project? [passage omitted]

[Marothy] I promise to give continuous briefings on Gabcikovo-Nagymaros. I cannot say this will happen tomorrow, but one of the tasks of this information main department is to provide this kind of data. [end recording]

Performance of Animal Husbandry Analyzed

AU280813 Budapest NEPSZAVA in Hungarian 26 Jan 88 pp 1,4

["Cseh"-signed report: "Animal Husbandry Performed Well—More Pigs Are Needed—The Poultry Branch Developed Dynamically—Quality of Fodder Is Not Uniform"]

[Excerpts] Production of animals for slaughter in 1987exceeded the plan by 2 percent, the Ministry of Agriculture and Food concluded recently. The stock of animals decreased at a slower rate, and a slight increase in the stock of pigs is expected. Concerning animal husbandry as a whole, it can be seen that the centrally initiated measures taken in 1986 and 1987 to improve incomes have not yet brought the expected results.

In the pig-raising branch, positive processes can be noticed as a result of the measures taken. The total stock of pigs at the end of 1987 is expected to have exceeded

the stock of the previous year by 15,000-20,000 head. At the same time, compared to the plan, a lag of some 400,000 head is still expected [figure as published]. [passage omitted]

The procurement and processing activity of the state and cooperative meat processing industry developed essentially in accordance with basic material production, according to plan. However, the quality, assortment, and packaging of products, did not undergo the expected change and development. [passage omitted]

In the cattle branch, milk production exceeded the plan by 3 percent, and slaughter cattle production exceeded the plan by 3.7 percent. The decrease in the stock of dairy cows was halted, and the stock of dairy cows was close to that at the end of 1986—an increase of about 1 percent. [passage omitted]

The decrease in the stock of beef cattle continued, and their number was 20,000 less than expected in the plan. [passage omitted]

Poultry production was the most dynamically developing branch of animal husbandry in 1987. Gross production value expressed in unchanged [valtozatlan] prices) increased by 3.6 percent compared with the previous year. [passage omitted]

In the sheep-farming branch, the measures taken in 1986 did not lead to the expected results. The stock of sheep in 1987 was approximately similar to that of the previous year, and lagged behind the plan by some 10 percent. [passage omitted]

Iranian Foreign Minister Continues Visit

Jaruzelski, Messner Receive Velayati

LD271931 Warsaw Television Service in Polish 1830 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] Wojciech Jaruzelski has received Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati. The head of Iranian diplomacy conveyed a message from Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i, to the Council of State chairman. Wojciech Jaruzelski presented Poland's evaluation of the world situation. He briefed Velayati on our activities aimed at consolidating peace and security in Europe and the world.

The Iranian guest expressed familiarization with the Polish plan to decrease armaments and increase confidence in central Europe. The Council of State chairman drew attention to the situation in the Persian Gulf, which endangers world peace and is caused by the Iran-Iraq conflict. During the talk, bilateral relations were also discussed and the will for their further development expressed.

Zbigniew Messner talked with the Iranian guest about Polish enterprises' participation in the implementation of Iranian investment plans and other forms of cooperation. He also briefed him on the principles of the second stage of the reform and the pro-export assumptions of our economic policy. Zbigniew Messner renewed the invitation to Iranian Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi to Poland.

The Polish-Iranian talks were summed up in a communique, which outlined the need to further broaden comprehensive cooperation; the need for the withdrawal of foreign warships from the Persian Gulf and for their replacement by a UN maritime forces; and support for an international Middle East conference.

IRNA on Jaruzelski, Velayati Meeting

LD271914 Tehran IRNA in English 1846 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 27, IRNA—Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati currently visiting Warsaw, conferred with Poland's President Wojciech Jaruzelski on mutual relations between the two countries as well as international issues, in the Polish capital Wednesday.

The Polish president terming Velayati's visit as important said Iran and Poland enjoy ample potential to cooperate in various fields. "Necessary efforts," he added, "should be taken for establishing long-term cooperation between the two countries."

In response, the Iranian foreign minister welcoming bilateral cooperation expressed hope that the Tehran-Warsaw joint cooperation commission—to be held shortly in Warsaw—could achieve positive results concerning the issue.

On tension in the Persian Gulf, Velayati said Iran believes that security of the strategic waterways which is important for regional countries and the world can only be attained through the littoral states' understanding and withdrawal of the all foreign forces.

Jaruzelski emphasised on expansion of Tehran-Warsaw cooperation and expressed hope to meet his [as received] Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i.

Meanwhile, Velayati also held talks with Polish Prime Minister Zbigniew Gertych on political, economic, technical and scientific cooperation between the Islamic Republic and Poland, earlier today.

The Polish premier renewed his invitation for his Iranian counterpart Hoseyn Musavi to visit Warsaw.

Velayati Ends Visit, Departs

LD271750 Warsaw PAP in English 1657 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] Warsaw, Jan. 27—Iran's Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati ended his official visit to Poland on Wednesday.

The Iranian minister met today with Minister of Foreign Economic Relations Wladyslaw Gwiazda with whom he discussed economic cooperation between the two countries and prospects for its development in the coming years.

The Iranian guest, bidden farewell by Polish Foreign Minister Marian Orzechowski, left Poland this afternoon.

Communique Reported 27 Jan

LD271945 Warsaw PAP in English 1817 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] Warsaw, Jan. 27—Following is the text of the Polish-Iranian communique on the visit to Poland by Iran's foreign minister.

Between January 25 and 27, 1988, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran 'Ali Akbar Velayati paid a return visit to Poland at the invitation from Poland's Foreign Minister Marian Orzechowski.

'Ali Akbar Velayati was received by President of the Council of State Wojciech Jaruzelski.

The Iranian foreign minister was also received by Prime Minister Zbigniew Messner and Sejm (Polish Parliament) Speaker Roman Malinowski.

Minister Marian Orzechowski and Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati held political talks at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs here. During the talks they reviewed the Polish-Iranian relations and discussed prospects of otheir development. They also pointed to the existing possibilities and the need to further broaden them, also in the field of

trade and cooperation in economy, science, culture, and information. The two came out in favour of conducting political dialogue on international and regional issues.

Minister Orzechowski appealed for an immediate stop to military operations between Iran and Iraq and for fulfilling the U.N. Security Council's Resolution No 598 of July 20, 1987.

Minister Velayati presented Iran's stand on this issue and on the military presence of the U.S. and other NATO states in the Persian Gulf.

The two ministers came out in favour of withdrawing foreign warships from the gulf and replacing them with the U.N. naval foces, in tune with the proposal put forward earlier by the Soviet Union.

Poland and Iran supported the idea to convene an international conference on the Middle East under the auspices of the U.N.

The two ministers reaffirmed their support for the struggle of nations of the south of Africa against the apartheid system and for Namibia's full liberation.

They also discussed other key problems of the international situation that developed after the signing of the Soviet-U.S. treaty on the elimination of medium and short range nuclear missiles, and stressed the significance of disarmament initiatives, including the Jaruzelski Plan.

The Polish and Iranian foreign ministers decided to continue political dialogue between the two countries.

The Iranian foreign minister paid also a visit to Minister of Foreign Economic Relations Wladyslaw Gwiazda. The two discussed the areas of mutually beneficial cooperation at the present stage, and after the end of war in the Gulf.

Messner Receives CSSR Vice Premier Gerle

LD271944 Warsaw PAP in English
1812 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] Warsaw, Jan. 27—Poland's Prime Minister Zbigniew Messner received Czechoslovak Vice Premier Ladislav Gerle Today.

The talk focused on bilateral relations.

Sadowski Receives GDR Deputy Premier Flegel

LD272207 Warsaw PAP in English
1906 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] Warsaw, Jan. 27—Vice-Premier and Chairman of the Government Planning Commission Zdzislaw Sadowski received here today Deputy Chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers and Chairman of the National Arbitration Board Manfred Flegel.

The two exchanged views on some problems of management and planning in Poland and in the GDR. They also discussed the assumptions and the processes of implementing economic reform in Poland.

Also today Manfred Flegel was received by Poland's Premier Zbigniew Messner. The sides exchanged experiences on the role of law in economy's management.

Siwicki Greets Laos Khamtai Siphandon

BK271459 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao
0430 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] Recently, Comrade General Khamtai Siphandon, our national defense minister, received a congratulatory message from Comrade General Florian Siwicki, national defense minister of the Polish People's Republic, on the occasion of the LPA founding anniversary.

The message reads:

Beloved Comrade Minister: On the occasion of the LPA founding anniversary, I would like to convey the best wishes of the National Defense Ministry of the Polish People's Republic and in my own name to you, comrade, and, through you comrade, to the entire heroic Lao combatants. On the occasion of this glorious anniversary, we wish our Lao comrades-in-arms great achievements in consolidating national defense work, standing firmly in the battlefields, and safeguarding the people's happy life and your national development.

On this occasion, I wish you, comrade minister, successes in carrying out party and state work and good health.

PZPR Politburo Meets 26 Jan

LD280411 Warsaw PAP in English
2250 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] Warsaw, Jan. 27—At a meeting here Tuesday the PUWP CC Political Bureau got acquainted with the state of implementation of the economic reform's 2nd stage, initiated in the 4th quarter of 1987, and with proposals concerning its implementation in the nearest future. It was determined that tasks envisaged in the programme filed with the Sejm were being realized by the government in tune with the target goals and to schedule, with works on complementations and modifications taking account of the referendum results proceeding without delay.

The Political Bureau pointed to the firm will to fully materialize the 2nd stage of reform and to the necessity to intensively implement the adopted solutions.

The debaters stressed the immense influence of managerial cadres on successful implementation and functioning of economic mechanisms in the 2nd stage.

The Political Bureau continued to assess the accomplishments of Poland's foreign policy and the country's cooperation with other nations.

As far as foreign policy is concerned the year 1987 brought Poland's growing prestige and consolidation of its international position. Last year saw Poland's increased activity in international contacts, efforts aimed at eliminating the lingering signs of discrimination. This was also a year of Poland's fresh initiatives contributing to European and world dialogue. It was stressed that of essential significance was the Polish plan for decreasing armaments and increasing confidence in central Europe which has a good chance to become an important factor of consolidating detente and security in Europe.

It was pointed out at the meeting that Poland reached a high level of cooperation with the Soviet Union and other socialist states, multilateral and bilateral top-level meetings having an inspiring role in this regard.

On the international forum, the PUWP devoted much attention to the effective exchange of experiences in socialist construction. The Political Bureau positively assessed the party's activity in contacts with communist and worker parties of developed capitalist states, as well as with communist and progressive parties and national liberation movements in developing countries.

The Political Bureau drew attention to the need to significantly develop comprehensive relations with the USSR and other socialist states adnto improve the mechanisms of political and economic cooperation within the Warsaw Treaty Organization and CMEA. Inter-party cooperation, enrichment of its contents and forms will have particular significance in relations with fraternal countries.

On the basis of the principles of equality, non-interference and mutual profit, Poland will invariably strive towards the widening of political dialogue and economic and cultural-scientific cooperation with the capitalist countries, at the same time persistently demanding the abolition of the still existant signs of economic and financial discrimination and branding various forms of propaganda diversion.

The participants stressed the need of enlivening relations, especially economic ones, with the developing countries and searching for new, effective, mutually profitable forms of cooperation.

The Political Bureau drew attention to the importance of widening the Sejm's foreign activities.

Furthermore, it agreed that there exists a need of increasing efforts for the shaping of a positive picture of Poland abroad and deepening the activities of the scientific base of foreign policy.

The Political Bureau approved the key goals in international activities in 1988, stressing the particular importance of strengthening Poland's position in international economic cooperation during the period of the implementation of the second stage of the economic reform.

Last year the planned goals in the trade turnover with the socialist and hard-currency countries were surpassed. The growth of exports (in fixed prices) outpaced the production and national income growth index.

There still exist deficencies in the supply of the economy with imported products. The scale of Poland's debt servicing is also limited. Cooperation with abroad to an insufficient degree influences the improvement of management effectiveness and growth of the national income. Poland's position in the international division of Labor does not correspond to its production potential.

In 1987 conditions were created for the normalization of Poland's financial-credit relations with its creditor countries. This is the result of debt restructuring agreements with commercial banks and states affiliated in the Paris Club, as well as the intensification of cooperation with the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank.

However, the participants forecast that despite the above, economic and trade cooperation with foreign countries in 1988 will take place in difficult external conditions.

The participants deemed the following as the most important factors in economic cooperation with the socialist states: A growth of the trade turnover, the tightening of economic and scientific-technological ties as well as the development of joint activities in these fields, the acceleration of integration processes within the CMEA, the improvement of the coordination of planning as the basic instrument of the realization of these goals.

The Political Bureau stressed that the changes in the coordination of planning mechanisms being introduced in 1988 are expected contribute to the growth of the effectiveness of that coordination.

Furthermore, the Political Bureau stressed the particular importance of the full realization of the decisions of the 43rd CMEA session pertaining to structural changes and restructuring of the mechanisms of the integration of the socialist countries. The Political Bureau recommended that Polish delegations in the CMEA's organs actively support these transformations.

Next, the participants agreed that depened analyses of the trends in world trade to early signal changes which could have influence on the conditions of Poland's trade with foreign countries were indispensable. [sentence as received]

The increase of the scale and variety of the forms of cooperation with other Countries and the striving towards the improvement of Poland's position in the international division of labour should be associated with gaining growing social acceptance for the need of developing exports and understanding and awareness of the profits for the economy and citizens.

Official Comments on Pricing Policy

LD272209 Warsaw PAP in English
2054 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] Warsaw, Jan. 27—"Formally speaking there are three categories of prices in Poland (official, controlled, contractual). In practice there are many more of them," Jerzy Chabros, director of the Finance Ministry's Price System and Planning Department, told a press conference here today. This widening of the number of price categories is mirrored in contractual prices, he said.

"Such a state of affairs is evidence of the state's far reaching and at the same time varied interference in the shaping of prices, the goal of which is protection of the buyer's interests. If we were to measure the structure of prices according to the value of goods sold we could see that 45 percent of consumer goods have official prices, 2 percent have controlled prices while the rest are sold according to contractual prices. At the same time this means that growth ceilings are set for 5 percent of all prices, treasury offices have to be informed about increases of 30 percent of all prices while only 18 percent may be shaped freely," Shabros added.

"Controls must be concentrated in selected areas," said Mieczyslaw Wantola, main financial control inspector. "This year they will concern contractual prices of basic commodities, especially those in which the market is still unbalanced and will check whether trade network is making use of its powers in negotiating prices. The network's position will be strengthened by the preparation by the finance minister of a list of articles whose producers will be only able to negotiate their selling price and not the retail price," he said.

This is not the sole undertaking planned for this year which is to change the existing rules of the game (set firmly until March 31st) to more market ones. Among the most important ones are the changes in the structure of prices announced by Jerzy Chabros. Though final decisions belong to the Sejm, the proposals are to pave way for the elimination of controlled prices (only remnants of which have remained so far) by including them either among contractual or official prices. The proposals also strive towards a slight reduction of the share of official prices in the general price system.

Sejm Official Interviewed on Economy

PM270943 Kielce SLOWO LUDU in Polish
28-29 Nov 87 p 6

[Interview with Marcin Borowicz, secretary of the Sejm Socioeconomic Council, by INTERPRESS correspondent Krzysztof Strzelecki; date, place not given]

[Excerpts] [Strzelecki] Until recently, we have known the Socioeconomic Council, of which Deputy Sejm Speaker Mieczyslaw F. Rakowski is chairman and you, Mr Borowicz, are secretary, chiefly by its frequently expressed and generally strongly critical opinions on the documents presented to the Sejm by the government. Nor did the latest, 20th session of the council end without your passing such an opinion, this time about the government report on the progress so far in implementing the recommendations submitted during the 1985 election campaign. This time, however, you did not leave it at that and you came out with the initiative—fascinating for some and mystifying for others—of creating the Society for the Encouragement of Economic Initiatives [TWIG].

[Borowicz] To begin with, let me point out that this is not the first time our council, acting within its competence, has not restricted itself to reviewing given questions as commissioned by the Sejm Presidium but has acted on its own initiative. It was so when we took up the question of the usage of asbestos—a material which is unquestionably detrimental to our health—in the construction industry and other sectors of the national economy; it was so when we prepared a report on the condition and development prospects of the so-called small-scale power industry. But all those who see our initiative concerning TWIG as a qualitatively new stage in the work of our council are certainly right. While the council has not discontinued its function of "critical reviewer," it wishes to demonstrate in practice, through the TWIG venture, its capacity for positive, creative action in the field of production, in which, after all, our Polish future will be decided.

[Strzelecki] But there are already many institutions active—or, at least, supposedly active—in that field while at the same time the assumptions of the second stage of the economic reform emphasize the importance of creating mechanisms designed, as it were, to regulate that production sector almost automatically...

[Borowicz] Perhaps if we had already gone through the second stage of the economic reform—complete with such perfectly functioning mechanisms as you describe—our initiative would have been superfluous. However, in the first place, things are as they are. Our council's resolution concerning the creation of TWIG states simply as follows: "The experience of recent years highlights the existence of considerable and tangible forces which for various reasons are not interested in a reform of our economic and public life. These forces must be resolutely confronted with a strong proreform movement." In the second place, nothing ever gets solved once and for all, and a search for solutions better than those already in existence is an indispensable element of all progress.

[Strzelecki] Agreed. Perhaps then we could talk about solid facts. Whom do you intend to recruit into TWIG?

[Borowicz] Speaking most generally, people who show initiative in the field of production and representatives of work teams as well as individualists who rise head and shoulders above the surrounding mediocrity and who have to struggle

against bureaucratic straitjackets and that familiar atmosphere of "impartial envy." There are many such people around and there are many such enterprises. It is no accident that, with TWIG's future in mind, we have focused our interest on enterprises like the Teofilow works in Lodz, the Jelcz plant near Wroclaw, and also Polskie Nagrania—which, under its new management, has been astonishingly successful in averting the threat of bankruptcy. We value the lively response prompted by our initiative all over Poland, in every sector of the economy: from large industrial combines through cooperative companies to small handicraft firms. Even before TWIG has had the time to progress beyond the conceptual stage—albeit sanctioned by the council resolution's approval—we are already inundated by telephone calls from persons interested in our initiative. [passage omitted]

Shall I give you some examples? Perhaps just a couple. We have had interviews with many authors of valuable technical improvements, or even registered patents, which for various reasons have not been employed in our industry. At the same time we have already had evidence of serious interest taken in TWIG by the "captains" of our large industrial complexes. One of them asked me the following question: "Would it not be possible to give TWIG the status of a public interest association? I could then transfer a large sum of money into your account without jeopardizing my work force or damaging my firm's development prospects. Naturally, not for nothing..."

[Strzelecki] Precisely... What interest could—and, perhaps, will—your "shareholders" have in the creation and development of TWIG?

[Borowicz] Since we are determined to adhere firmly to the hard realities of the pro-reform policy represented by our council from the first days of its existence, it is obvious that we do not regard TWIG as a charity. Nor do we envisage it as being in somebody else's keep. All those who join us must see in it an advantage to themselves. And society must prove its own viability by showing that it can earn its own keep and, by the same token, develop its own capacity for carrying out promotional, popularization, and interventional campaigns. How can we do it? I have already mentioned the shelved patents. And again, in keeping with Premier Zbigniew Messner's assurance that "all is permitted that is not forbidden," why should we not set up our own company for developing and marketing innovatory ideas or else take over an existing company of that kind? [Passage omitted]

Chief of Military Police Interviewed

AU271513 Warsaw ZOLNIERZ WOLNOSCI in Polish 25 Jan 88 p 3

[Interview with General of Brigade Edmund Bula, chief of the Internal Ministry Service, by Colonel Zdzislaw Janos: "Time—An Irreproducible Factor of Activity"—date and place not given]

[Excerpts] ZOLNIERZ WOLNOSCI: During our previous interview last March about the work of the Internal Military Service [WSW], the following statement was made, if you will allow me to quote it: "Totally principle-minded in combating wrongdoing, we are not fighting against man, but for him." From the perspective of last year, how can one assess the implementation of this highly humanitarian ideal?

[Bula] Thank you for re-inviting me for an interview. I am pleased that you are interested in this very fragment of our previous conversation. For every WSW soldier and employee is concerned that everyone should have a real picture of our tasks and work, not a distorted one.

The idea of struggle for man is being confirmed.

Most of our 1987 undertakings were designed to preserve security in basic spheres of military functioning, including the protection of every soldier and earliest possible reaction to negative conduct.

The Army basically consists of young people fulfilling their constitutional duty. The firm majority of them are perceptive, disciplined, and honest. But just like in every community, in the Army too there are soldiers who break professional, ethical, or legal regulations. Their behavior, usually typical of young people, is the result of still undeveloped social attitudes, ignorance, or carelessness. We try to protect these young people against the dangers caused by deliberate action or unfavorable community phenomena. We try to keep the effects of criminal activity—damage to one's good name, destruction of material goods, and in extreme cases even loss of health or life—to a minimum. The consequences of youthful escapades have an unfortunate effect on units and sub-units, and also on the soldier's family, place of residence, and so on.

Thus, the humanitarianism of our efforts is expressed in our aim to prevent or minimize the social effects of offenses. [passage omitted on discipline within the armed forces and whether there is enough of it]

[Janos] I once came across quite an original expression: "counterintelligence prevention." Is it justified and correct to use it? What does it mean?

[Bula] We apply the term "counterintelligence prevention" to all the WSW's undertakings designed to counteract foreign intelligence services and signs of other hostile action. We are performing three basic and interconnected tasks: foreseeing dangers, informing military communities about the reality of them, and uncovering and eliminating phenomena which encourage these dangers. That is the meaning and sense of the concept "counterintelligence prevention."

In every military unit and institution there are officials who perform tasks connected with preserving secrets, restricting access to military installations by unauthorized personnel, camouflaging undertakings, and so on. I consider the use of the term "counterintelligence prevention" vis-a-vis the work of commands, staffs, and even individual soldiers correct.

We have commenced broad-scale research aimed at working out a modern system of counterintelligence prevention. This system will take into account all spheres of activity, especially our service's joint responsibility and joint activity with all soldiers and employees in a unit.

[Janos] So far we have spoken about the present problems of WSW work. Could the comrade general tell us the chief problems whose solution will guarantee that the protection of the armed forces is adapted to future needs?

[Bula] External and internal conditions (political, economic, and social) are subject to dynamic change. The adversaries are acting aggressively, with determination, and with a high level of organization and technology. They are ruthlessly taking advantage of the openness of our society and the progressing democratization in the country. All these factors make the conditions for performing our tasks more complicated. We see a solution in developing the personalities and capabilities of our cadres.

Today, a good knowledge of one's "trade" and an honest performance of it are no longer enough in the WSW. It is essential to reject routine and to undertake bold new action that carries a certain justified risk. WSW soldiers are trained to perform competent, independent activity, mainly based on self-criticism and self-control. We are eliminating the remnants of mechanisms that cause conservative attitudes and lack of initiative, consistency, and resilience in the performance of tasks.

Always faced with a shortage of information, we have been basing our plans of action on forecasts of the development of events. But today we are introducing excellent methods of analyzing situations. We are also improving the ways of changing the results of these analyses into plans of action—the deployment of forces, resources, and time, taking into account the probability of events.

We consider time to be an increasingly important factor in our activity. Time is irreproducible. That is why we are trying to provide those who directly handle tasks with the maximum amount of time. They will then be able to apply forces and resources with greater flexibility.

Taking into account the specific nature of WSW work, we also treat time as a measure of effectiveness. Because our activity and that of the adversary cannot pass each other by. Also, a situation where there is no possibility of alternative action is impermissible.

We are also making long-term structural changes in the spheres of task performance, decisionmaking, and information. Here we have adopted the principle of "graduated calm." It means that the speed with which new methods of action are sought and introduced varies with each level of organization. From regional bodies we expect creative fervor and a faster reaction toward changes in a situation. From higher bodies we expect an increasingly intelligent and farsighted view of the processes taking place, and clearer and firmer decisions. [passage omitted on personal qualities of WSW cadres]

Weekly on Rights for National Minorities

AU271537 Warsaw POLITYKA in Polish 16 Jan 88 p 4

[Jerzy Tomaszewski article: National Minorities Are Among Us"]

[Excerpts] In our country national minorities no longer constitute the political problem they did before 1939 when over two-thirds of Poland's population spoke languages other than Polish and cultivated their own national traditions. Today national minorities, especially the White Russians and Ukrainians, probably account for no more than 1.5 percent of our population. These minorities have their share in Poland's general culture, but they maintain their own national culture and traditions. They help to increase our achievements, and that is why they have every right to see the day when their own separate needs are met. After all, the times when even serious politicians were fascinated by the idea that the Polish community is a single nation are long behind us. It is interesting to know that some politicians really believed in that idea.

Both the Sejm and the government have presented the program for democratizing the political relations in our country, and that is why, if we seriously care for that 1.5 percent of our national minorities, we should rid the country of any debris of that unfortunate idea and find out how the national minorities' justified aspirations are being met.

First of all we should find out how these minorities are faring. It is true that sociocultural associations of the White Russians, Czechoslovaks, Lithuanians, Ukrainians, and Jews continue to operate, some better and some worse, but representatives of these minorities tell us that these activities are no longer adequate. Periodicals also continue to be published, including White Russian, Ukrainian, and Jewish weeklies, and there exist the State Jewish Theater and the Jewish Historical Institute with its publications. This is everything, if we do not count the fact that the White Russian Museum, which was at one time overhastily eliminated, is being reinstated.

It may seem paradoxical that a very small Jewish community has its own theater and scientific institute, whereas the far more numerous White Russians and Ukrainians have nothing of the kind. Cultural publications in Polish and Yiddish continue to appear, but more often than not White Russian and Ukrainian works are never published in their original languages.

This is so because the Jewish institutions were set up immediately after the war when the Jewish community in Poland was not only far more numerous than other national communities, but also was of a different structure. The Jews who survived the Holocaust included

many intellectuals, men of action, writers, and cultural stalwarts who rebuilt Jewish life and set up the foundations of various institutions, which continued to fare better or worse, but which can now be proud of great achievements. Not all these institutions have survived. For example, the publishing agency JIDYSZ BUCH, whose readers continued to diminish, had to close down.

When the war ended the White Russian, Lithuanian, and Ukrainian communities had no intellectuals and consisted almost of peasants. Their prewar creative people and activists had been scattered. Some settled in the USSR, some who were described as nationalists emigrated, some perished in the war, and there were some who collaborated with the Hitlerites and had to face trials. The resettlement carried out under the so-called Vistula Action was a blow against the Ukrainians. I will not deal with the issue of the necessity for that action, which has been the subject of recent discussions. Regardless of the reasons for that action, the resettlement resulted in the dispersal of the Ukrainian population, in the breakdown of neighborly ties, and in stunting the development of Ukrainian education and culture. [passage omitted]

The war ended more than 40 years ago, and the third postwar generation is coming to life. The general cultural advancement of the rural areas has enabled the White Russian, Lithuanian, and Ukrainian peasant communities to produce scientists, writers, journalists, and artists, who are popular in Poland and abroad. [passage omitted]

It is a shame that we have failed to note the passage of time, the great changes affecting our national minorities and the entire country, and the fact that the time when these minorities could be regarded as hardly enlightened peasant communities is long over. We must meet the aspirations and needs of these changed national minorities and begin realizing a nationality policy that, except for few brief episodes, is without precedent in postwar Poland. [passage omitted]

In the past 10 years the Catholic circles have begun to take interest in the culture and history of our national nationalities. These circles have begun sponsoring various actions in order to popularize the knowledge about these minorities and to promote scientific research and serious discussions in this connection. Some periodicals, including WIEZ, ZNAK, and TYGODNIK POWSZECHNY, continue to publish valuable articles. We should praise this kind of attitude, which is so different from the attitude of probably most clergy before the war, when the Polish left wing and the liberal segments of the intelligentsia offered their support to the national and religious minorities against the so-called Polish nationalists, who were strong in voicing nationalistic phraseology and who readily indulged in the prejudices created by religion. This bad streak of Polish Catholicism has still not disappeared, but it has been relegated to the sidelines, from which we hope it will never return to the mainstream. [passage omitted]

We could follow our neighbors in solving the national minorities' various problems. Although fewer Ukrainians live in Czechoslovakia than in Poland, they have their own scientific and cultural periodicals and publish books. The state also helps to maintain their institutions. The Lusatian Serbians' situation in the GDR is similar.

We should consider the participation of representatives of national minorities in the elected bodies of government. These representatives can be found in many people's councils, but is their representation adequate? During the recent Sejm elections, Szymon Szurmiej, who represents the Jewish Sociocultural Association, was elected deputy. It would also be right for other minorities to have such representation, especially since they have their representatives on the PRON National Council. The only pity is that their speeches in PRON receive mostly no real publicity. Even if some people claim that the numerical strength of a minority does not warrant Sejm representation, the participation of such deputies in the Sejm's work and their voice on matters of great interest to minorities can only enrich debates and strengthen the democratic system in Poland. The majority's respect for minorities is one of the criteria in line with which the political maturity of every community is measured. [passage omitted] Respect for the rights of the national minority, which may not be able to finally determine current policies, but which contributes to our common good, is part and parcel of democracy. [passage omitted]

I have raised the issue of national minorities because I think that all such minorities should have their needs met in a truly democratic Poland. I am deeply convinced and I will stubbornly continue to reiterate that the development of Polish culture depends to a great degree on exploiting the achievements of other cultures, especially of those that are close to us. As for Polish literature, Mickiewicz's creations are rooted in White Russian-Lithuanian soil and Iwaszkiewicz's works were inspired by Ukrainian sources. Jewish motives are part and parcel of our literary traditions. Deprived of all these motives, traditions, and influences, Polish literature would be a pauper. That is why it is in the Polish interest to see that we do not lose the links that are invaluable for us.

'Bogus Telegram' From Swedish King Noted

AU272032 Paris AFP in English
1947 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] Stockholm, Jan 27 (AFP)—A Romanian magazine has published a bogus telegram of congratulation to President Nicolae Ceausescu from King Carl XVI Gustav of Sweden, the Stockholm daily AFTONBLADET reported on Wednesday.

The report came a week after officials in London denounced as false a message of praise purportedly sent to Mr. Ceausescu by Queen Elizabeth II.

The magazine, LUMEA, carried a supposed telegram from the king to mark Mr. Ceaucescu's 70th birthday, which, according to AFTONBLADET read:

"Mr. President: You symbolize Romania's advance in the last decades. Under your leadership Romania has undergone spectacular economic development."

A Swedish Foreign Ministry spokesman denied the king had used any such words, saying his message was simply: "Please accept my sincere congratulations and best wishes on the occasion of your 70th birthday."

Anniversary of Treaty with Hungary Marked

AU7271557 Bucharest SCINTEIA in Romanian
24 Jan 88 p 5

[Editorial article: "Under the Sign of Mutual Cooperation and Regard—The 40th Anniversary of the First Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation, and Mutual Assistance Between Romania and Hungary" celebrated on 24 January]

[Text] Today we mark the 40th anniversary of the conclusion of the first treaty of friendship, cooperation, and mutual assistance between Romania and Hungary, a significant event in the relations between the two countries and peoples. The Romanian-Hungarian treaty, signed on 24 January 1948, sanctioned the traditional ties between two nations which, for many centuries, have lived as neighbors and often cooperated in the struggle for a better life. Embarking on the path of deep revolutionary changes, by signing the treaty, Romania and Hungary solemnly showed their will for friendship and close cooperation on various levels, with a view to ensuring progress on the path of a new life. They also showed their will to contribute to asserting the cause of peace and understanding throughout the world.

In spite of the policy of oppression promoted by the exploiting classes and the reactionary regimes of the past, and in spite of the the hatemongering instigated and pursued by the imperialist circles in the interest of their domination, the progressive forces and the revolutionary movements in Romania and Hungary—primarily the communists—constantly militated for rapprochement and friendship between our peoples.

During World War II the participation of the Romanian Army, alongside the Soviet Army, in the battles fought to drive away the Hitlerite forces from Hungary and to liberate the neighboring country inscribed everlasting pages of solidarity in history. As is well known, Romanian troops took part in the liberation war that was heroically fought on Hungarian soil, and with some 210,000 soldiers and officers liberated more than 1,200 localities, including 14 towns. During the fierce struggles waged in Budapest and in many other places on Hungarian territory, the Romanian soldiers made heavy sacrifices—one in five was wounded or killed on the battlefield.

During the postwar years, Romanian-Hungarian relations, stimulated by the communal system, ideology, and goals, were developed in various areas—in the political, economic, scientific, technical, and cultural fields. Thus, these relations acquired a new and richer content and benefited from the political-legal framework created by the treaty signed in 1948, which stipulated the principles of full equality of rights, respect for independence and national sovereignty, noninterference in domestic affairs, mutual advantage, and comradely assistance as a basis for the development of these relations.

Proceeding from the two countries' experience in socialist construction and in bilateral cooperation, and from the changes that had taken place in Europe and throughout the world, the second Romanian-Hungarian treaty was signed on 24 January 1972 in Bucharest, and marked the directions for further developing cooperation in all areas of joint interest.

The fact that the development of relations between Romania and Hungary has followed a positive course in many areas is a reason for mutual satisfaction. The ties of friendship between the leading political forces in the two countries—the RCP and the MSZMP—are factors of decisive importance in expanding Romanian-Hungarian relations of cooperation. In this respect, a highly important role was played by the meetings and talks between Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu and Comrade Janos Kadar, because they elaborated the guidelines for intensifying cooperation in the economic, political, scientific, technological, and cultural fields, as well as for cooperation in the international arena in the struggle for peace, understanding, and cooperation in Europe and in the world.

It is the belief of both countries that their growing economic potential, the development programs of the two national economies, and the geographical proximity are factors which continuously increase their cooperation possibilities in various fields of activity. Within this context, the modern forms of cooperation and production-sharing in various highly significant sectors are particularly important. During the latest session of the Joint Romanian-Hungarian Governmental Commission For Economic Cooperation that was held in Budapest, the sides examined a program for concrete measures to ensure the development and diversification of bilateral economic cooperation.

In the international arena Romania and Hungary, together with the other socialist countries and the other countries and peoples of the world, pursue efforts to ensure peace, bring about disarmament, seek peaceful solutions to various interstate conflicts, and ensure security in Europe and throughout the world.

A matter of great importance is the promotion of a policy of good-neighborliness in the process of building and developing the new system, a policy that can bring fruitful results only through strict observance of the principles of independence and national sovereignty, noninterference in domestic affairs, complete equality of rights, and mutual advantage—the sure guarantee for expanding and developing relations of friendship and cooperation.

A review of Romanian-Hungarian relations emphasizes that the 40 years which have elapsed since the signing of the first treaty of friendship, cooperation, and mutual assistance between Romania and Hungary have been a period of fruitful accomplishments. On the anniversary of this treaty, the Romanian people convey sincere greetings to the Hungarian people and express their determination to work unswervingly in order to continuously strengthen the multifaceted cooperation between Romania and Hungary, and express their belief that this is in keeping with the fundamental interests of both nations and, at the same time, makes an important contribution to promoting the general cause of socialism, peace, and understanding in Europe and throughout the world.

Totu Greets Hungarian Counterpart

AU251128 Bucharest SCINTEIA in Romanian 24 Jan 88 p 5

[Text] Ioan Totu, minister of foreign affairs of the SR of Romania sent a greetings telegram to Peter Varkonyi, minister of foreign affairs of the Hungarian People's Republic on the occasion of the anniversary of the treaty of friendship, cooperation, and mutual assistance between Romania and Hungary.

Defense Ministry Congratulates Ceausescu

AU271311 Bucharest SCINTEIA in Romanian 22 Jan 88 p 2

["Telegram Sent to Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, RCP Secretary General, President of the SR of Romania, and Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces" by the participants in the scientific solemn session organized by the Ministry of National Defense to mark Ceausescu's 70th birthday and "the 55th anniversary of his revolutionary activity" held on 21 January in Bucharest]

[Text] Much beloved and esteemed Nicolae Ceausescu, on the occasion of your birthday and the anniversary of more than 55 years of your heroic patriotic revolutionary activity, with boundless love, appreciation, and gratitude, the participants in the solemn scientific session organized by the Ministry of National Defense extend to you, much beloved and esteemed Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, an ardent and enthusiastic military salute. We convey to you best wishes for a long life and happiness so that with your usual tirelessness and wisdom you may lead us toward ever greater victories on the road of socialism and communism, toward continuous prosperity for Romania, where it may assert itself free, independently, and sovereignly in a world of peace, equity, and cooperation.

Likewise, on this occasion we also express the deep respect and gratitude of our army personnel for Comrade Academician Doctor Engineer Elena Ceausescu, front-ranking militant of our party and state, outstanding state politician, and scientist of world renown, who, together with you, is carrying out important and fruitful work for the development of our homeland and the constant progress of science, education, and culture in our country.

The meeting recognized your fearless revolutionary commitment in the heat of the harsh class struggle and the outstanding role you played in the actions lead by the party against fascism and revisionism, against the threat of war, to defend the supreme interests of the Romanian nation. It also recognized the courage, heroism, and political maturity with which you worked to organize the many demonstrations of the progressive forces in our country. Highly significant in this respect is the antifascist and antiwar demonstration held on 1 May 1939, in which you and Comrade Elena Ceausescu played a key role.

The reports presented to the session strongly emphasize the unanimous and ardent homage paid by the whole Army to you, the most important hero of the Romanian nation, the magnificent leader and founder of modern Socialist Romania, who has completely devoted himself to the noble aspirations of the people. With revolutionary passion and perseverence—through your outstanding theoretical and practical activity—you gave unprecedented dynamism and renewing, unparalleled vigor to the process of building the new system, a process that released the creative energy of our nation, which, in the period following the Ninth RCP Congress achieved monumental work, created an edifice that will last for centuries as impressive proof of the most glorious period in the multi-millenia history of our homeland—the Nicolae Ceausescu Era.

With particular patriotic pride and boundless respect, the session recognized the key role you played in substantiating and implementing the strategy for the country's socioeconomic development, based on your thorough knowledge of the Romanian realities, your thorough scientific examination of the current international social and political situation, and the ever greater role of the party, as leading political force and vital core of our nation, in renewing and enriching the national and international revolutionary thinking and practice.

The reports presented to the session emphasized your prodigious activity in the early years of the revolutionary transformation of our Army—when you held a highly

responsible position in its leadership—and the constant care you have shown for developing the defense capability of the homeland, modernizing the military apparatus, creating a national defense industry, ensuring optimum instruction and education conditions, and asserting the Army as a school for the political, patriotic, and revolutionary education of the young generation.

The solemn scientific session emphasized the fact that we owe to your farsighted and original thinking the formulation of a uniform, all-inclusive concept of national defense and highly valuable doctrine and guidelines, which enriched the military science, strategy, and skill. The session stressed the fact that, thanks to your directives—political and military documents of inestimable theoretical and practical value—the Army has obtained important results in combat and political training and in developing its combat capability and, thanks to you, our army has become an active participant in the whole socioeconomic life of the country.

We assure you, much beloved and esteemed Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, illustrious leader of our party and state, leading militant of the international communist movement, and tireless fighter for the triumph of peace, cooperation, and progress for all mankind, that the army of our country will mobilize all its energy with a view to implementing the 13th RCP Congress decisions and will always be ready, together with the people, at the call of the country and upon your orders, to defend the independence, sovereignity, and territorial integrity of the SR of Romania.

Allow us, much esteemed Comrade Supreme Commander, to add to our solemn pledges the traditional, old wishes for long and happy years, in robust health and with working energy, for the well-being and the happiness of the nation and for the glory and greatness of the Socialist Romania.

The participants in the Solemn Scientific Session organized by the Ministry of National Defense.

Mikulic Begins Official Visit to Italy 27 Jan

Interviewed Before Departure

LD271538 Belgrade TANJUG in English
1437 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] Rome, Jan 27 (TANJUG)—Yugoslavia is not committed to a multi-party system but to democracy of a pluralism of self-management interests within the framework of the delegate system and the Socialist Alliance of the Working People, the country's mass political organization, Yugoslav Prime Minister Branko Mikulic said in an interview to the Milano daily CORRIERE DELLA SERA on the eve of his visit to Italy.

"We appreciate the values of the multi-party system in other countries but we do not believe that anyone's model of social organization can be a 'God-sent' recipe for all societies and all other forms of democracy," Mikulic said. He expressed conviction that, in view of negative experiences before and during the war, a multi-party system in multi-national Yugoslavia would lead inevitably to party divisions on the national basis.

Mikulic described as untrue some views abroad that relations among the nations and nationalities in Yugoslavia had been completely disturbed. Yugoslavia's nations and nationalities paid a very high price for their brotherhood and unity during the liberation war, he said. "Our friends in the world can rest assured that the Yugoslav nations and nationalities will guard and continue to strengthen their greatest achievement."

Asked about the interest of the East and the West in the preservation of Yugoslavia's economic and political stability, Mikulic said that such stability is above all of extreme importance to the Yugoslavs themselves. He also called on all Yugoslav friends in the world to offer, besides their moral support, concrete support to Yugoslavia to persevere on its own path.

It would mean much more to us, he said, if the markets of the European community and other industrialized countries opened more to Yugoslav exports of goods and services, if our proposal to reschedule our foreign debt principal was endorsed, if material support was extended to Yugoslavia to restructure its economy, if opportunities were created for industrial cooperation and Yugoslavia's participation in the scientific and technological development programmes, such as Eureka, for instance, if investments were made in Yugoslavia's development on the basis of joint ventures and so forth.

Stressing that this would constitute the biggest contribution to Yugoslavia's political and economic stability, Mikulic said that Yugoslavia will remain "a free, independent and nonaligned country" and as such, also an important factor of peace and stability in Europe and the world.

Mikulic expressed the wish that cooperation with the EC, accounting for 85 percent of Yugoslavia's foreign trade deficit and for the largest part of the country's external debt, was broader, stronger and more dynamic, adding that efforts by both sides were required for a new quality in relations.

The Yugoslav prime minister assessed relations and cooperation with Adriatic neighbour Italy as very good, and said that the common border was never, nor should ever be a "dividing line, but a bridge for rapprochement" between the two countries.

In reply to a question on the forthcoming Balkan countries foreign ministers' meeting in Belgrade, Mikulic specified that the meeting will review questions of the Balkan countries' multilateral cooperation, not outstanding questions in individual countries' bilateral relations. He expressed the conviction that the meeting would contribute to understanding and trust among the Balkan countries, strengthening of security and creation of a zone on peace and cooperation in this part of Europe.

Further on Interview

LD271545 Belgrade TANJUG in English
1447 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] Rome, Jan 27 (TANJUG)—There is no connection whatever between Albania's participation in the forthcoming Balkan ministerial conference in Belgrade and the situation and fermentation in the Yugoslav autonomous province of Kosovo, Yugoslav Prime Minister Branko Mikulic said in an interview with the Milan daily CORRIERE DELLA SERA.

The situation in Kosovo is exclusively an internal affair of Yugoslavia, he said, adding that Yugoslavia will not tolerate anyone's direct or indirect meddling and interference in its affairs.

"The Yugoslav Government has welcomed the Albanian Government's decision to attend the conference," Mikulic said.

"We consider Albania's joining of inter-Balkan cooperation to be significant, for it is this kind of cooperation among equal and sovereign states that constitutes a condition not only for regional stability, but also for the further strengthening of peace and security in Europe and the world as a whole," he said.

The Yugoslav prime minister arrives in Rome on Thursday, January 28.

Goria Interviewed Before Visit

LD272058 Belgrade TANJUG in English
1821 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] Zagreb, January 27 (TANJUG)—Italian-Yugoslav relations can be pointed out as an example of good relations between neighboring and friendly states, of

those who in the past underwent dramatic war destruction, renewed intensive dialogue and cooperation as Rome and Belgrade have done, Italian Premier Giovanni Goria said in an interview to the VJESNIK daily's Rome correspondent, Silvije Tomasevic.

The interview was made prior to Yugoslav Premier Branko Mikulic's coming visit to Italy.

Goria underscored that Italian-Yugoslav relations are good at present and are constructively inspired towards a more positive development.

The Italian side has shown concrete signs of that spirit at various multilateral meetings. Italy intends to work along the same lines during Premier Mikulic's visit by giving substantial proof of our interests with the signing of a memorandum on cooperation and development, Goria said.

A positive view on national minorities must be taken with such a positive spirit. The minorities must not be factors of division, but must signify an enrichment and motivation for increasing contacts and cooperation between the two peoples in border regions, Goria said.

In reply to the question how some disagreements between the two countries can be overcome, such as fishing in the Adriatic, Goria pointed out that the two governments had started negotiations on the question long ago and were trying to solve the problem outside of the traditional framework of reciprocal favors that the old agreement was based on.

A new form of cooperation is trying to be established in using the fishing potentials of the Adriatic, he said.

Goria expressed hope that the negotiations would end soon and that a new page would be turned in the two countries' cooperation.

The VJESNIK correspondent said there were some in Yugoslavia who believed that the aid Italy will give to Yugoslavia will be in some way conditioned on requests that the Italian minority in Yugoslavia be better protected. Goria replied that Italy had never brought into connection what it would do—aiding a friendly country—and what it expected the friendly country to do in regard to normal rights.

Goria said the question of minorities would be discussed as well, but would not be brought into connection with the policy of aid and the policy of respect which Italy considers it is obliged to keep to.

Mikulic Leaves for Italy, Vatican

LD280917 Belgrade TANJUG in English 0819 GMT 28 Jan 88

[Text] Belgrade, 28 Jan (TANJUG)—Branko Mikulic, president of the FEC, left Belgrade this morning for an official visit to Italy and talks with Premier Giovanni Goria and other Italian officials about the ways of advancing bilateral cooperation. Official talks between the two premiers will start today.

Branko Mikulic will also meet President Francesco Cossiga, top parliamentary representatives and leading Italian industrialists.

During his visit to Rome, the president of the FEC will also pay a visit to the Vatican.

Mikulic is accompanied on his visit to Italy by Nenad Krekic, federal secretary for foreign trade, and by Budimir Loncar, deputy federal secretary for foreign affairs and acting federal secretary for foreign affairs.

Arrives in Rome

LD281117 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1015 GMT 28 Jan 88

[Text] Rome, 28 Jan (TANJUG)—The president of the FEC, Branko Mikulic, arrived in Rome this morning on a 3-day visit to Italy in the course of which he will meet the country's top political representatives and sign a 3-year agreement on economic cooperation.

On this visit, Branko Mikulic is accompanied by the acting federal secretary for foreign affairs, Budimir Loncar, and the federal secretary for foreign trade, Nenad Krekic. At Ciampino Airport, the Yugoslav delegation was welcomed with highest state honors. The Yugoslav delegation was greeted by Luigi Franza, an undersecretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, who stood for Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti, who was unable to attend because of an emergency government session.

Official talks will open this morning. The Italian delegation will be headed by Premier Giovanni Goria and will also include Foreign Minister Andreotti and Foreign Trade Minister Renato Ruggiero.

The talks will end with the signing of an agreement on economic cooperation. The president of the FEC is expected to be received by the president of the republic, Francesco Cossiga, in the Palazzo del Quirinale this afternoon. Separate talks with presidents of both parliamentary houses, Leonilde Iotti and Giovanni Spadolini, are also on the agenda.

Milosavljevic Receives PRC Economic Official

LD271816 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1512 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Text] Belgrade, 27 Jan (TANJUG)—FEC Vice President Milos Milosavljevic today received Zhu Rongji, vice minister of the PRC State Economic Commission, who is heading a Chinese delegation at a session of the mixed Yugoslav-Chinese commission for industrial cooperation. At the talks, a positive assessment was made of the development of cooperation in this area and the two sides expressed an interest in promoting it further.

Orlandic Receives Hungarian Envoy

LD252203 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1011 GMT 25 Jan 88

[Text] Belgrade, 25 Jan (TANJUG)—Marko Orlandic, member of the LCY Central Committee Presidium, today received Sandor Gyorke, ambassador of the Hungarian People's Republic to the SFRY, who briefed him on the joint initiative of the MSZMP, of the Finnish Social Democratic Party, and of the Italian Socialist Party on cooperation among the countries not possessing nuclear weapons. [passage indistinct]

During their meeting they also discussed questions of bilateral relations and cooperation between the LCY and the MSZMP.

Economists Proposals Reportedly 'Ignored'

AU271336 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 22 Jan 88 p 13

[Jug Grizelj commentary: "Deep Into Taboo Topics" reprinted from SLOBODNA DALMACIJA—date not given]

[Text] "The Ten Commandments" on solutions to the Yugoslav crisis written by two prominent Yugoslavs, Dr Marjan Korosic and Dr Slavko Goldstein appeared in public a month ago. Their prescription actually had 10 points, just like the Ten Commandments, and it looked like an optimistic electric shock, not only because of its radical suggestions, but even more because of its claim that it was entirely possible to solve our crisis..."if only...."

What happened to this proposal? Some newspapers have published it, some have not (television by no means), and then it acquired a layer of dust. The government ignored the proposal completely.

Prof Branko Horvat recently reiterated his proposal (for the second time in 2 months): Let the government urgently form a team of a dozen prominent Yugoslav economists (by no means strictly observing republic representation) to draft a specific proposal on how to find a way out of the crisis—only finding that way will take a year or two. What happened to this proposal? The same as to the previous one. Some newspapers have published it, some ignored it, and the most powerful medium, television, kept silent again. As far as the government and other forums are concerned—the proposal has not been registered officially.

How is it possible that the two proposals, both optimistic and both offering a quick way out of the crisis, are met with a lack of reaction by state and political circles, which, by the way, have been repeating like a refrain for days on end a statement that there is no solution to the crisis without a short, simple, and promising united Yugoslav program?

The answer seems to be simple: both Korosic's and Goldstein's and Horvat's programs go "to the bottom": in the sphere of economics they broach the question of capital and money markets, pluralism of property relations, the taxation system, gross and net income, maximum landholdings, free initiative in small businesses, the convertibility of the dinar, etc, and in the political sphere the further democratization of the political system, a definitive debate on the relationship between the class and the nation, freeing the economy of political tutelage, doing away with a feudalist-type economy and with bureaucracy, opening toward the world, etc.

In other words, both proposals reach deep into our taboo topics and suggest that we remove all the gold plating. And that is, it seems, something for which our leading circles are not ready yet. They are not ready, as Prof Dragoljub Stojanov from Sarajevo said in BORBA, for the question of all questions: Do we need a redefinition of socialism, and if we do, what kind of redefinition would that be?

Slovene TU Preparing Strike Regulations

LD281209 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0952 GMT 28 Jan 88

[Excerpt] Belgrade, 28 Jan (TANJUG)—Indications are that in the near future, strikes in Yugoslavia will proceed under a "protocol"—a set of precisely defined rules. The initial move was made by the Slovene trade union, which submitted for a public debate a draft of rules on strikes. The trade union organizations in other republics and provinces are expected to voice their views.

Even the top trade union body, the SSJ [Confederation of Trade Unions of Yugoslavia] Council, has already embarked on the work to analyze this problem. According to Stojan Stojcevski, member of the Presidium of the SSJ Council, the trade union will not decree codes of conduct itself during a strike but will only define a common basis for drawing up rules. According to his explanation, the top trade union body is not in a position to lay down detailed "rules of the game" in a conflicting situation, since the latter does not develop according to an established pattern. However, Stojcevski says, if for instance, we decide to introduce the word "strike," in that case it will have to be applicable to all.

There is a special working group in the SSJ Council preparing the first draft of the document. All the proposals by the Slovene trade union are being carefully analyzed, Stojcevski said. A large number of other interesting proposals have been sent by the trade union councils from other republics and provinces. Everybody is involved in this. We want our members to specify the rules in line with our conditions and circumstances in order to avoid a situation whereby events are developing in one direction while our eyes are turned in the other.

Official Protests Article Critical of Mikulic

AU272024 Zagreb DANAS in Serbo-Croatian No. 308 12 Jan 88 pp 4-5

[Letter by Milan Jovanovic, chief of the Press Department of the Federal Secretariat for Information: "Reaction: (Im)Politeness of Public Speech"]

[Text] It is obvious that the editors of the DANAS weekly are consistent to its slogan that it goes further, one may say further and further, when attacks on the FEC are concerned. One may even say that when it concerns insulting President Branko Mikulic, the editors have no peer in any other Yugoslav organ. It is difficult to find a similar article in which such a lapse of journalist ethics was committed as in the article "Figure Skater" (in your issue No. 306 of 29 December 1987).

When we say this, we proceed from the premise that in every public utterance, be it common journalistic polemics, political or professional dialogue, cultural criticism, and the like, one must respect the elementary rule that the polemicist should rest on arguments and facts, and that he should protect the personal dignity of the opponent, even though he disputes the value of his personal views, or politics, or standpoint. Our practice, however, offers examples of the person who fails to provide arguments for his assertions attacking the very person whose positions or results are disputed. In our opinion, the culture of public speech and dialogue should be present when criticism is addressed to either an ordinary citizen or a premier of a country.

Instead of all this, the DANAS editors and Slaven Letica applied precisely the method of a crude assault on the person of the FEC president. Were it not so, how else could one explain the epithets that said Mikulic is a "former Bosnian governor," and a "political amateur," who reached the office of FEC President "as a child of propitious political circumstances and the favorite of the mass media," or the literary paraphrases about Mikulic as "Gulliver in words and a Lilliputian in deeds." In order that we will not be reproached for making facile judgments, let us cite some more disparaging remarks about Mikulic by Slaven. According to the latter, the FEC President remained a political amateur up to the day when he felt shaken because of opposition to the Anti-Inflation Program. At that time, he transformed himself overnight "from a political amateur and idealist into a pragmatic politician" whose only purpose is to preserve his present political office.

The reasons that DANAS and its author cite for such labels being attached to the FEC president are also interesting. They simply assert that he did not use the well-known "tricks of all modern governments" to shift the responsibility for his "ritual programs" onto eminent economists, instead of assuming the authorship for himself. A second reason is that he did not share out political responsibility "so that the greatest part was earmarked for republican governments and parliaments, and a considerable part for federal presidiums, which are becoming more and more idle."

The editors and the author also offer their explanation: "He did not want to do that, probably because his mentality as a distributor and governor (accumulated during his Bosnian political phase) won out over his self-preservation instincts as a professional politician."

It is obvious that the FEC president is not up to the jesuitic methods and political tricks and games offered to him, which were also in use in the late Middle Ages and early capitalism, and not only by "modern governments." It is also obvious that he is not a politician of the kind that could implement such advice.

When one reads the article "Figure Skater," a question inevitably arises: If the editors of DANAS and journalist Slaven really wanted to present to the Croat and Yugoslav public an objective picture of the FEC policy and work and of its president, should they not have made a serious analytical and honest effort, and at least partly presented the complex socioeconomic and political conditions under which the FEC and its president work? The fact could not possibly be avoided that the FEC is not and cannot be the government of only one or two federal units, or of only one region, whether they be developed or underdeveloped. If this applies to the FEC, it must also apply to its president.

In implementing its stabilization policy, the FEC, abiding by the letter of the SFRY Constitution, must harmonize its positions with all the socialist republics and socialist autonomous provinces virtually on all essential material problems. It is no secret, at least not to DANAS, that they often have different positions on the same questions, because of different material interests. It is sufficient for one party in the process of reaching the accord to make its agreement to the adoption of a document conditional on some other problem (which is of special importance to that party) being resolved according to its ideas, and the functioning of the system is blocked. It does not help that the other six, and sometimes even seven, partners have agreed. Therefore, can all the blame be attached to the FEC and its president? Indeed, the FEC has never asserted that it offered the most ideal solution with every one of the

proposed measures. This demonstrates the FEC's readiness to correct some of its moves so that a common language may be found, not departing from the basic concept of the policy adopted in the SFRY Assembly.

An objective approach by the editors and the authors would demand that they look this truth in the face, and especially that they admit that our seeking of accord in the search for common solutions sometimes turns in practice into veritable negotiations among states pursuing predominantly the interests of their national economies, and that the other constitutional obligation—that the interest of the entire Yugoslav community and economy should be cared for—sometimes goes by the board.

In such a situation it is not difficult for a clever journalist and politician who is in the service of special interests to "cover" the positions with which these interests are defended with an ideological-political icing which at first sight is generally acceptable and most progressive. It then very easily happens that those who pull us forward into a "wealthy socialism" and who open us to the world, appear on one side, and the FEC—relying on its policy and positions on those that are underdeveloped, unprofitable, and lazy, and that pull us into "real socialism"—on the other. Although it is certain that the great majority of working people of this country are in favor of wealthy socialism, it is also certain that they are not in favor of such socialism in one or two federal units only. This again demands that vital interests of other parts of the economy, or rather of that part of the economy that also contributes to exports and enables the direct exporters to earn their foreign exchange, should also be taken into consideration during the process of reaching accords and harmonizing views (as, for instance, was the case of the changes to the Foreign Exchange Law).

Instead of a constructive approach, DANAS and Slaven sharply attack solely the FEC and its president, but they also do not spare the SFRY Assembly, not hiding their dissatisfaction at their part in the adoption of the Anti-Inflation Program and using low language indeed: "Had the federal parliament had intellectual and political strength to define an alternative economic-political program, it would certainly have had another government today, too. It did not have it. It does not deserve a better one. The behavior of voting delegates and the media in the case of the Anti-Inflation Program shows that only the Slovene and partly the Croatian parliamentary delegations, and a smaller part of the media deserve a slightly better program, if not a slightly better government, too."

Without entering into any assessment of such reasoning and such a conclusion by that author (or into the reasons for resistance to the Long-Term Stabilization Program adopted a long time ago), I would like in conclusion to express my conviction that the freedom of the press, especially in a developed and cultured community, cannot be identified with the freedom of attack on personalities, and cannot be excused by invoking "the author's free personal style."

[Signed] Milan Jovanovic, chief of the Press Department of the Federal Secretariat for Information.

SAWP Body Views MLADINA Editorial Policy

AU271347 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 22 Jan 88 p 3

[Veselin Simonovic report: "Damage Caused By Anonymity"]

[Text] Ljubljana, 21 Jan—The publication in MLADINA of an anonymous letter about the founding of an independent trade union and a new communist party in Zenica represents a serious political mistake—this was the assessment today at the session of the Press Department of the Republican Conference of the Slovene SAWP.

According to a statement by the MLADINA Publishing Council on the publication of the anonymous letter from Zenica, the members of the council agree with the basic principle that readers' letters should not be published in incomplete form. They, too, think that it was a mistake to publish this controversial letter from Zenica. The Court of Honor of the Slovene Journalists Society was of a similar opinion.

Robert Boteri, chief editor of MLADINA, explained the kind of problems the paper encountered when it decided to research this case: "They promised us all the information, but when our reporters went to Bosnia and Hercegovina they were called into the Republican Secretariat for Internal Affairs and were promised everything in return for the anonymous letters. They were simply told that this was a service in return for a service. This is why we failed.

Joze Smole, president of the Republican Conference of the Slovene SAWP and the Press Council, pointed out that the publication of the anonymous letter was an irresponsible act because it has caused great damage within Yugoslavia and in the world.

It looked as if the MLADINA editorial board was interested in founding a new independent trade union and a new communist party. This was a serious political mistake. One should have not played with anonymous letters.

Joze Smole also warned that some newspapers from other parts of Yugoslavia carry defamation and an all-out attack on MLADINA and that they ought to be opposed. Speaking about how he was first invited to comment on the publication of unacceptable articles, Smole stressed that if, for instance, Dimitrij Rupel wrote in his article that if the LC remained in the SAWP, the SAWP can no longer remain the SAWP, then the reaction should have first come from the paper publishing the article.

One should also react to articles that insult the Yugoslav People's Army. Such a style of writing prevents us from achieving a real socialization of the plan of all-people's

defense. These are very crude attacks on everything connected with All-People's Defense and Social Self-Protection. I issue a plea to all newspapers to react to such things.

Comrade Jovanovic asked us in POLITIKA, Smole continued, to express our views about some articles in our press. I would advice Jovanovic to leave us to form our own opinion. The trains of nationalism have again been mentioned, but I think that our views on stabilization in Kosovo are clear, Smole stressed.

We have done a lot through direct investments, we are helping to sort things out....

I also disagree with Bozidar Bogdanovic's speech at the POLITIKA Publishing Council session when he said that in the future POLITIKA will more resolutely oppose unacceptable views from other republics, particularly from Slovenia and Croatia, as if unacceptable views do not exist in other republics. At tomorrow's session of the Republican Conference of the Slovene SAWP, I will propose a discussion about that. I am not against criticism, but I cannot accept this defamation. In our efforts for a different economic policy and a foreign exchange law, we cannot be accused of being motivated by egoism and separatism, Smole pointed out and added:

Let them present a case on whether our proposals are realistic, feasible....We accept that.

Bajec Addresses Serbian LC Central Committee

LD272118 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0814 GMT 27 Jan 88

[Excerpts] Belgrade, 27 Jan (TANJUG)—The political climate now is favorable for us to struggle for one of the basic orientations of the eighth session of the Serbian LC Central Committee, which requires each of us to turn to his own forces and potential and the widest possible mobilization of the subjective factor to be carried out. In the activities of basic organizations and committees so far, the first positive moves have been made. These activities are unequal to a considerable extent and are not specific enough or clear enough in setting tasks. This was stated in the introductory speech at today's session of the Serbian LC Central Committee by Presidium member Dr Jurij Bajec. The session is devoted to ideological and political issues in the implementation of the stances of the eighth session of the Serbian LC Central Committee on socioeconomic development for the SR of Serbia in 1988 and the further tasks of the LC.

Having cited a considerable number of municipal committees that had planned and organized their activity well, Bajec underlined that in a number of municipalities and municipal committees, organizations of associated labor and basic organizations, there is as yet no such specific approach.

Because of this, Bajec said, in every collective we will resolutely raise the question of confidence in existing management structures, and even workers' councils, and the question of their recall, taking as our starting point adopted programs, and with the organized action of the trade unions. In each municipality we will, in the framework of the Socialist Alliance, raise the question of the responsibility of all of our delegates and of the delegate assemblies, and in this way, the responsibility of the municipal officials as well, and this will also be closely connected to results in the realization of economic and social development. The same treatment should be applied to every republican organ, the Serbian assembly, its Executive Council, and so on. There are no prospects for development if the successful collectives receive no reward and if no economic sanctions are imposed against the unsuccessful ones, he continued. [passage omitted]

Bajec went on to ask whether, because of poor economic results there had ever, anywhere, been a case of a municipal president being replaced, or the president of an executive council or a republican functionary. Why are there not cadre changes in the management structures corresponding to what is demanded by the existing state of economic activity? Why do municipal committees and basic organizations approach more rapid cadre changes to bring in fresh blood so fearfully?

In Bajec's opinion, the reason is that every such cadre change is usually seen as a disruption in that environment, while it is forgotten that the real disruption is represented by poor economic results. Apart from this with changes such as these, the problem arises of how to find the right man. Then those who have been replaced have to be found a place. Finally, the question of responsibility should always be raised regarding coordination groups and other bodies that enabled a poor choice of cadres to be made.

Bajec stressed that the economic resources set aside for economic and general social administration must be unconditionally reduced, and this means that already this year the number of those employed in such jobs should be reduced by a set percentage. [passage omitted]

This year the number of those employed in republican organs will be reduced by 350, which will mean, in terms of personal incomes alone, that more than 2 billion dinars will be saved, Jurij Bajec said. [passage omitted]

He added that the LC has also started to reduce its party apparatus, so that by half way through this year the number of employees in the Serbian LC organization will be reduced by 270.

Jurij Bajec paid particular attention to the fall in standards of living of working people and citizens, which he assessed as being one of the most reliable indicators of the worsening of the social situation. [passage omitted]

He stressed that one of the important causes for the growth in social tension in society is social differences which, when standards of living are falling rapidly, become even more obvious. They indicate the relevance of taxation policy, above all the progressive taxation of income and property. [passage omitted]

BRIEFS

Smiljkovic Election

At today's session of the Serbian LC Central Committee, Rados Smiljkovic was elected as a member of that forum. Of the 158 Central Committee members, 131 were present and 126 voted. Of these, 120 were in favor of his election and 6 were against. The Central Committee also supported the candidature of Rados Smiljkovic for membership in the Serbian LC Central Committee Presidium. [Summary] *[Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1414 GMT 27 Jan 88 LD]*

Oil Extraction Increases

According to the Novi Sad Nafta gas work organization, the extraction of crude oil last year amounted to 1,128,468 tonnes, 1.7 percent more than planned. The extraction of natural gas amounted to 925,890,455 cubic meters which is 12.6 percent more than envisaged by the plan. The planned production of crude oil and natural gas for this year is 1,090,000 tonnes and 844,315,000 cubic meters respectively. [Summary] *[Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 14 Jan 88 p 1 AU]*